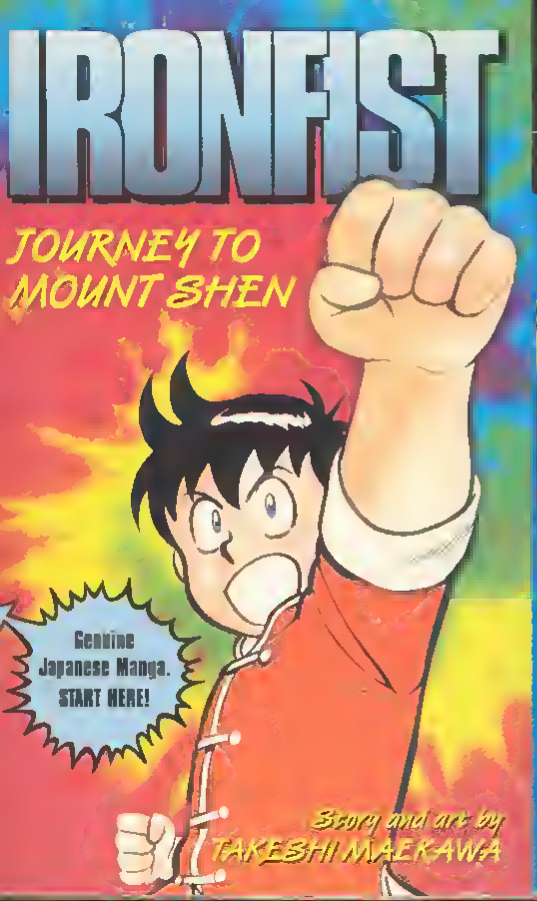
IRONFIST

JOURNEY TO MOUNT SHEN



Story and art by
TAKESHI MAEKAWA

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GRAPHIC NOVEL
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IRONFIST
JOURNEY TO MOUNT SHEN
Story and Art by Takeshi Maekawa

JOURNEY TO MOUNT SHEN

IRONFIST

WARNING! READ THIS BOOK FROM BACK TO FRONT IN THE TRADITIONAL JAPANESE WAY—CONFUSE THE ENEMY!

Chinmi will need more than strength and speed if he is to survive the perils of the long journey to Mount Shen and the merciless training of the Zen Master. He must learn how to concentrate all his powers; to see with his mind's eye; to be faster than a wildcat, still as a rock, calm as a lake; and to deflect an attack by using the strength of his opponent.

IRONFIST CHINMI is written and illustrated by the prolific **Takeshi Maekawa**, whose other manga works in Japan include BREAKSHOT, KEKKEYOI, and HOSHINOKEN.

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IRONFIST CHINMI

Journey to Mount Shen

Takeshi Maekawa

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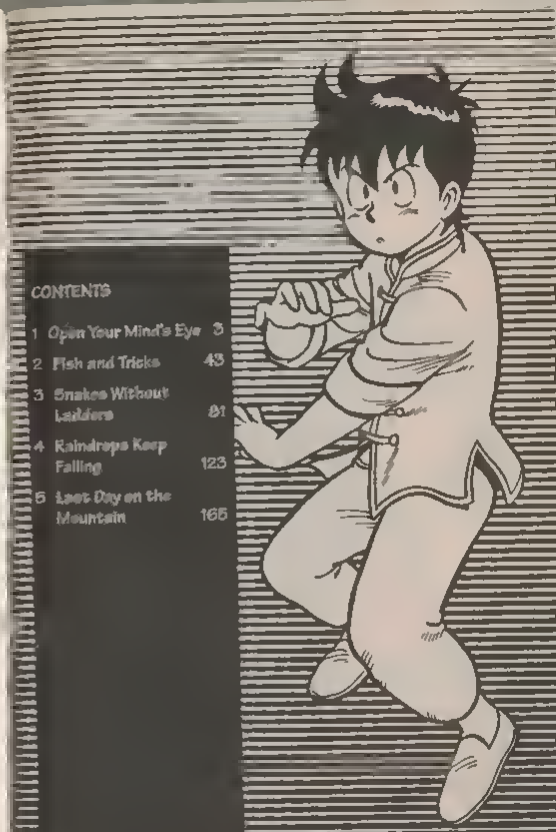


Chapter One
Open Your Mind's Eye!

1
2
Meditation is over for today.
3
Goodi! Time for some food
4
Come on, Chinmi

1
What's this? Are you asleep or what?
2
As you say, Jin Tan...
3
4
I was just thinking for a while.
5
What?
Chinmeeee! I know...
Tschchhh
6
You've got cramp! You can't move your legs!
Uh oh
7
YAGHI Don't touch me!
plink
Allo
8
EYAAAAGHI!
Ughhh!
9
This always happens to you..
Yaghi Jin Tan! Get away from me!
plink
plink
10
11
What are you thinking about?
12
I'm wondering who's going to be chosen for the Mount Shen journey in a couple of days.
kachik
13
Someone has to go to Mount Shen?
That's right
That's a tall order..
kachik

1
Hhhr-hhr
Hhhr-hhr
Hhhr-hhr
2
Today we will hold trials to find the pupil who can go to Mount Shan.
3
The journey is long and hard, and requires strength of mind and body. We will not choose anyone who displays any sign of weakness!
So! Please prepare for the competition by warming up
Good luck, Chimi
You, too!

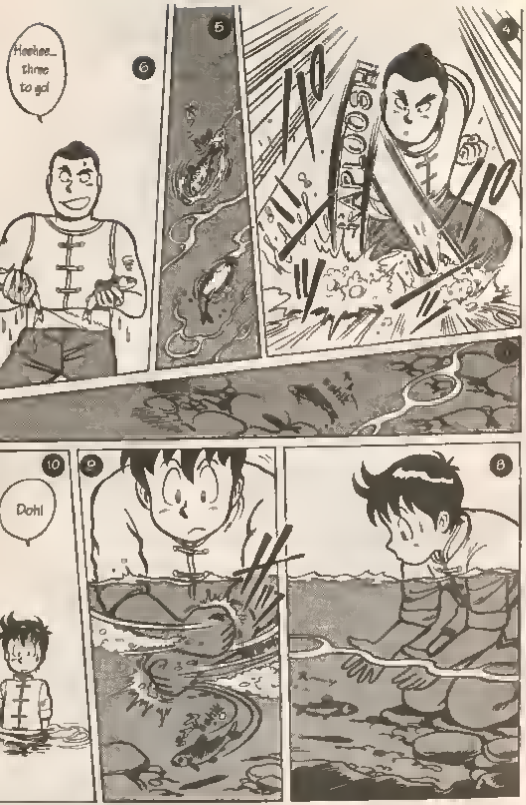
5
The trip to Mount Shen is the first step on the road to becoming a Kung Fu master. It's really important.
Well, let's try for it.
4
Oooh! I need a leak!
I don't want to strain myself!
6
Stretching exercises are vital!
Why are you telling me?!
8
DWAAAM
Chimi! The contest is beginning!!
Uh-oh..
clonk
7
doing
Hah!

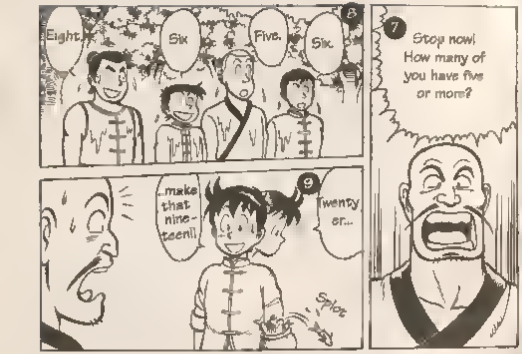
1
The one selected for the journey to Mount Shen will harden his mind and body through the hardships encountered on the way.
2
His Spirit and Flesh must become as one, in harmony.
3
Thus, let us begin our search for a suitable person

4
There will be four trials. You must succeed in all of them to stand a chance of going to Mount Shen
5
The first trial is Tree Climbing!
6
Tree Climbing!?
7
In times of hunger, when you need fruit from on high, or times of peril, when you must escape wild animals, it is crucial that you can climb fast.
8
BEGIN!

1
There's no branches to hold onto!
Urgh!
2
Ha-ha! I never thought playing with Gokuwa would ever come in useful!
3
Yaaay! I won!
4
His body must be light, but that alone isn't enough to make him so fast! This boy is truly powerful..!
5
6
BOING!
7
Come on, Jin Tani
8
Only a little further!
CRACK
Chinmi!
9
Is he a monkey?!
10
The second test involves catching fish with only your bare hands.

1
Right! Off you go!
splash
splash
You must catch at least five!!
2
Yahi
3


4
SPLOOSH
5
6
Hehee... time to go!
7
8
9
10
Doh!

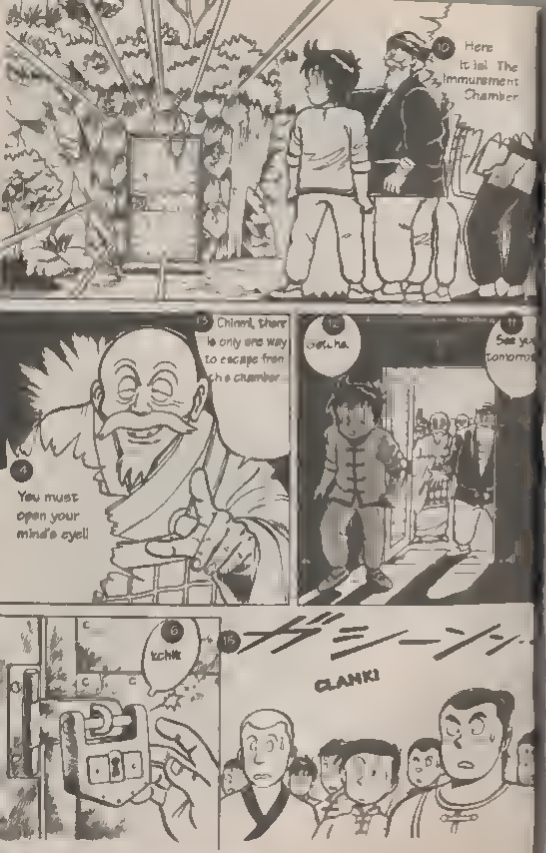

Eight.
Six
Five.
Six.
8
7
Stop now! How many of you have five or more?
make that nine-teen!!
twenty or...
Splat

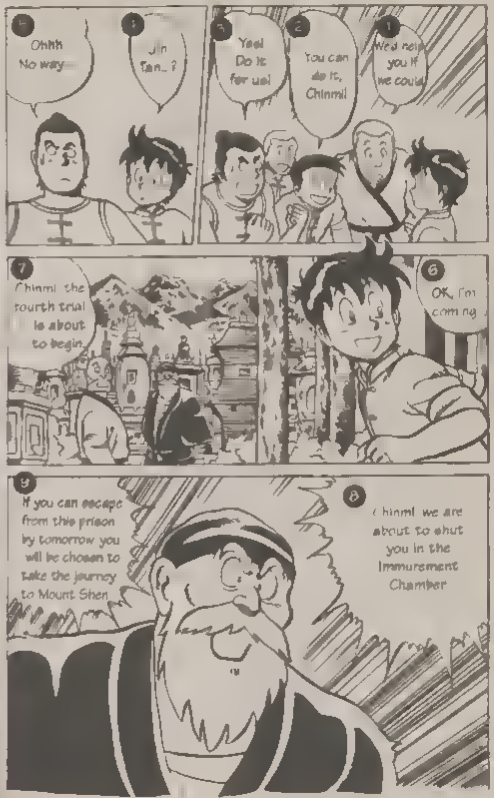
2
He's hiding under that rock.
Pop
3
I can scare him out from there..
1
Easy does it..
4
Eyagh
5
!?
Hik
That ought to do!
Whew!
6

1 In the third test, you must swim across the rapids and touch the big rock!
SSSSSSHHH
2 If you can't swim, you lose right away!
DOING
3 SPLASH
4 Go! Jin Tan!
5 Jin..
6 Yeah!
7 KKKKKK
8 One down..
9 four to go.

10 Jin Tan!
11 You wouldn't believe how fast the current is!
12 Well...I'm next to go...
OoF
13 Be careful...
14 He doesn't weigh enough...
15 SSSSSHHH
16 Splash
17 Ulurgh!

1
Urrrgh.
2
Urgh
six steps. seven steps.
3
Why hasn't Chinmi come to the surface...?
4
Don't tell me he's forgotten to breathe.
5
Phew!
6
YAAAAAY!
7
Just a little further...
8
9
I did it!
10
He can't have walked across the riverbed with that rock! I don't believe it!
11
What a guy!
12
13
And as for the others...
14
15
Only Chinmi has survived to take the final test.
16
But the fourth trial will be the toughest...
Ulp.

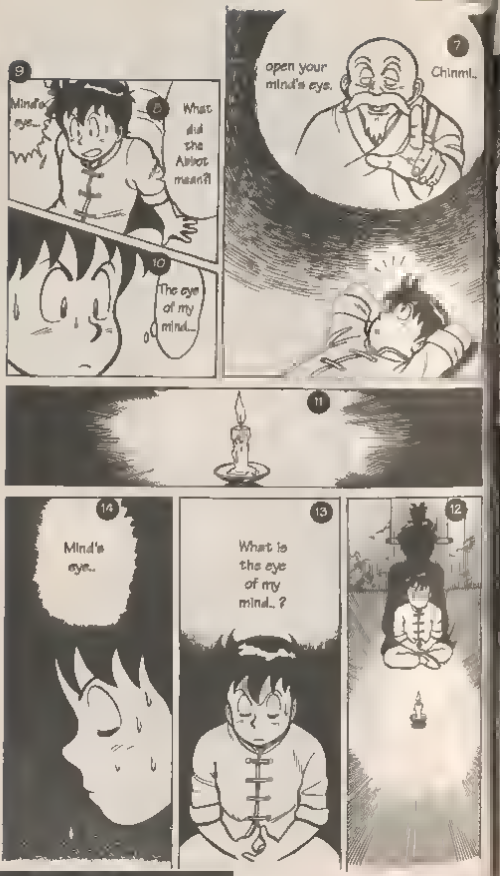

10 Here it is! The Immurement Chamber
15 Chinmi, there is only one way to escape from the chamber...
4 You must open your mind's eye!!
16 Ha..ha.
11 See you tomorrow
6 Kchik
15 ガシーン
CLANK!


5 Ohhh No way...
1 Jin Tan..?
3 Yes! Do it for us!
2 You can do it, Chinmi!
4 We'd help you if we could
7 Chinmi the fourth trial is about to begin
6 OK, I'm coming
9 If you can escape from this prison by tomorrow you will be chosen to take the journey to Mount Shen
8 Chinmi we are about to shut you in the Immurement Chamber

* TIAN SHENG TIAN XIA WEI WO DU ZUN
In all Heaven and Earth, I alone am upstanding. Confucius.

1
Ummph..
2
Phew There's no way I can move this.
3
Is there ?
Scratch
Scratch
4
Nope Nothing behind the scroll.
5
Ah hah!
6
Maybe there's a loose stone in this wall
7
There's got to be at least one

8
chimp chimp
9
Are you worried?
10
Ahhh !!
11
It's been years since anyone passed the fourth trial Chimmi's only a boy
12
As I thought. There's no need to worry though There's still plenty of time until daybreak
13
Chimm
14

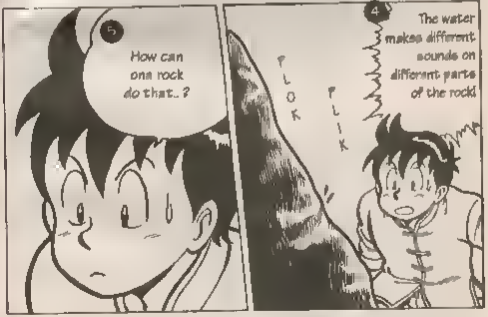

1
Ouch...
2
Every one of them is fixed in place
3
Sigh...
4
And this side is nothing but solid rock...
5
AAAGH! Why can't I think straight?! There has to be a way! I can't fail now
6
7
Chimmi.. open your mind's eye.
8
What did the Abbot mean?!
9
Mind's eye...
10
The eye of my mind...
11
12
13
What is the eye of my mind..?
14
Mind's eye..

1
Mind's eye.
2
Mind's eye...
Plik plik
Chirp chirp
3
Water...
PLIK
4
This is another place..
PLIK
5
What's that insect I can hear..?
chirrp
6
Wait for it again
chirrp
7
See it
8
See without using my eyes.

9
Water dripping
PLIK
ピチョーン
10
chirrp insects
カサ:
CHIRRP CHIRRP
11
PLIK
Feel the emptiness...
12
..and you will see
13
PLIK
ピチャーン
ピチョーン

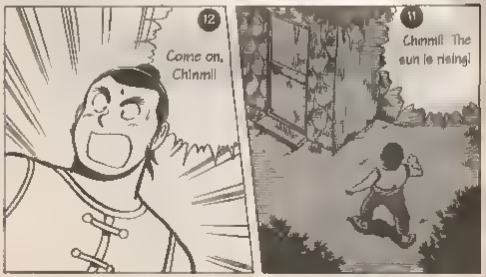
1
PLOK
PLIK
ピチョーン
ピチョーン

2
plok
plik
plok
3
plik
plik

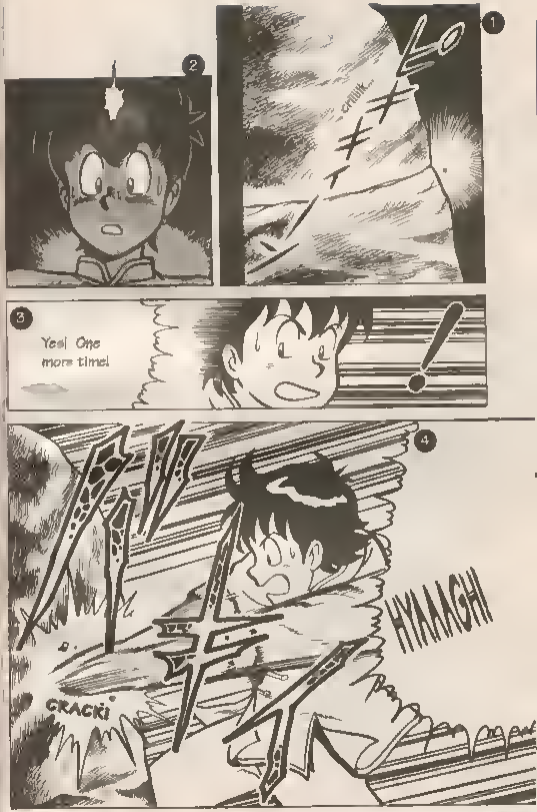

4
The water makes different sounds on different parts of the rock!
PLOK
PLIK
5
How can one rock do that..?

6
NOK NOK!
7
NIK NIK
8
NOK NOK
NIK NIK
NOK NOK
9
The sound does vary.

10
The Eastern Sky...!


11
Chinmil! The sun is rising!
12
Come on, Chinmil

6
The sounds seem to change along this line.
1
Could it be...
2
...that there's more than one rock...
3
Let's try...
4
F l o o o
F l o w
F l o w..
EYAAAGH!!
6
KCHAK!
Nothing..
8
9
arrk...

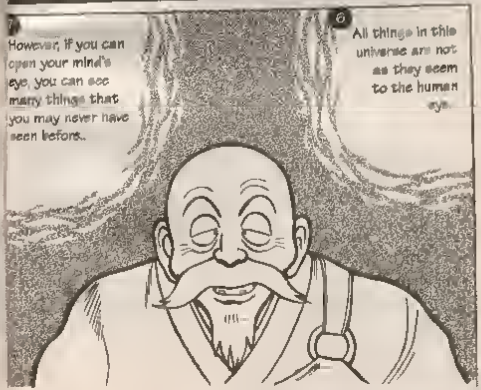

1
creak
2
3
Yes! One more time!
4
HYAAAGH!
CRACK!

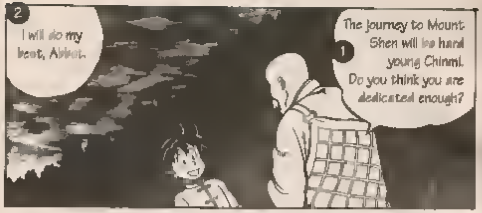
5
KRSHSHH
6
KRSHSHSHSH

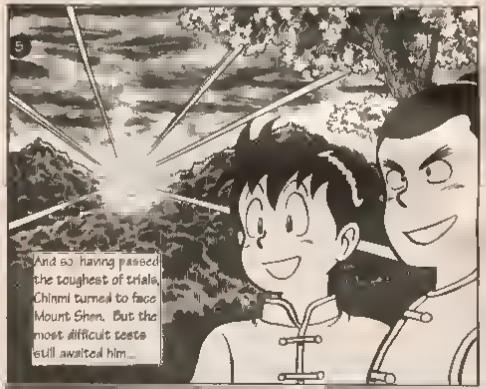
KRUMPH
2
I'm out!

3
I did it!
4
Chinmi!
5
Jin Tan!
6
He did it!
7
Well done, Chinmi!
8
Everyone was waiting for me!

4 That rock was really made from compressed layers of mica.
5 Mica is a mineral with very strange properties. In many ways it is like stone, but from some directions it is very fragile.

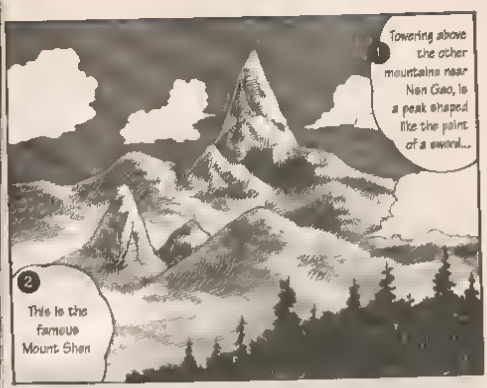

6 All things in this universe are not as they seem to the human eye.
7 However, if you can open your mind's eye, you can see many things that you may never have seen before..
Hm~

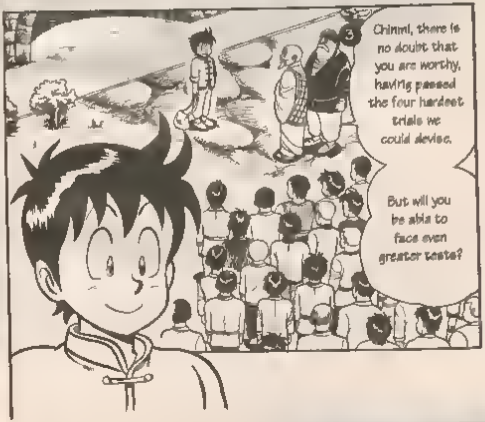



5 And so having passed the toughest of trials, Chinmi turned to face Mount Shen. But the most difficult tests still awaited him...

The End of Chapter One

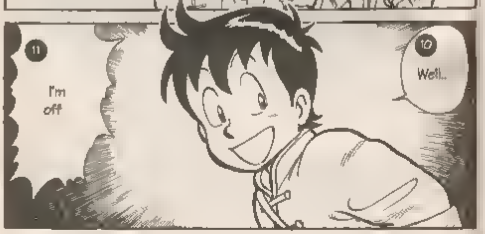
Chapter Two
Fish and Tricks


1
Towering above the other mountains near Nan Gao, is a peak shaped like the point of a sword...
2
This is the famous Mount Shen

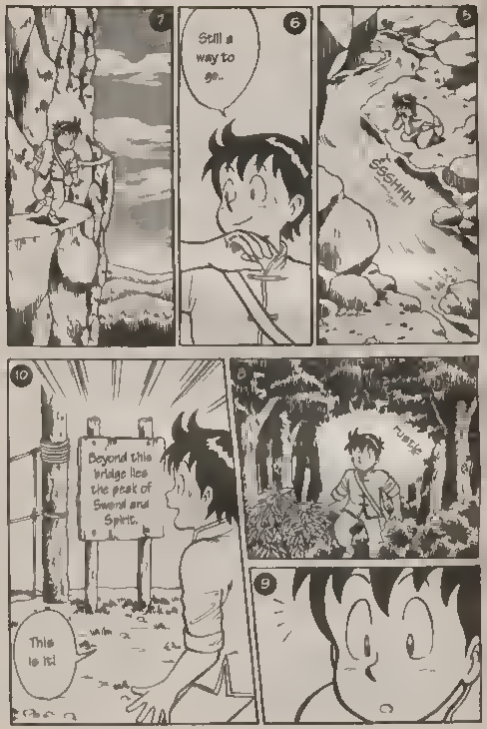

3
Chimmi, there is no doubt that you are worthy, having passed the four hardest trials we could devise.
But will you be able to face even greater tests?

4
The Zen Master Tiandao will take your training to the necessary extremes. Beware, it will be very difficult.
5
I understand.

6
Chimmi!
7
Chimmi!
8
Do your best!
9
Be careful!
Thanks, everyone

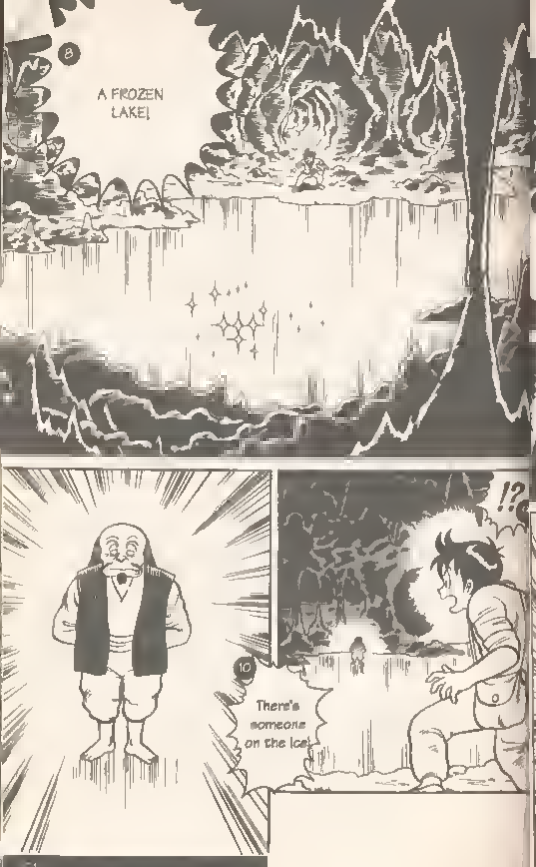

10
Well...
11
I'm off

1
2
cheep cheep
cheep! away
3
phew
4
It's a lovely day...


5
SSGHHH
6
Still a way to go...
7
8
rustle
9
10
Beyond this bridge lies the peak of Sword and Spirit.
This is it!

1
Uh oh
2
Don't look down
HOOOOOO
3
I don't think a life is see that place in a hurry

4
I hope I've got the right mountain
WOOOOOOO
5
So, this is it...
6
Why is this place so deserted?
7
And where is the Zen Master, Tiandao?

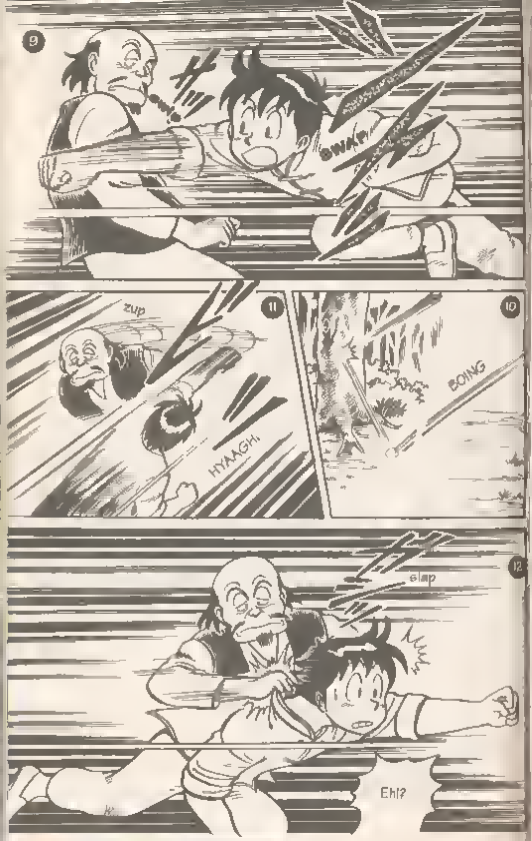

1
A cave
2
Scuse me! I'm looking for a Zen Master!
3
Hello?
4
5
It's getting colder...
6
There's something shining round that bend!
7
GASP!
8
A FROZEN LAKE!
9
!?
10
There's someone on the ice!

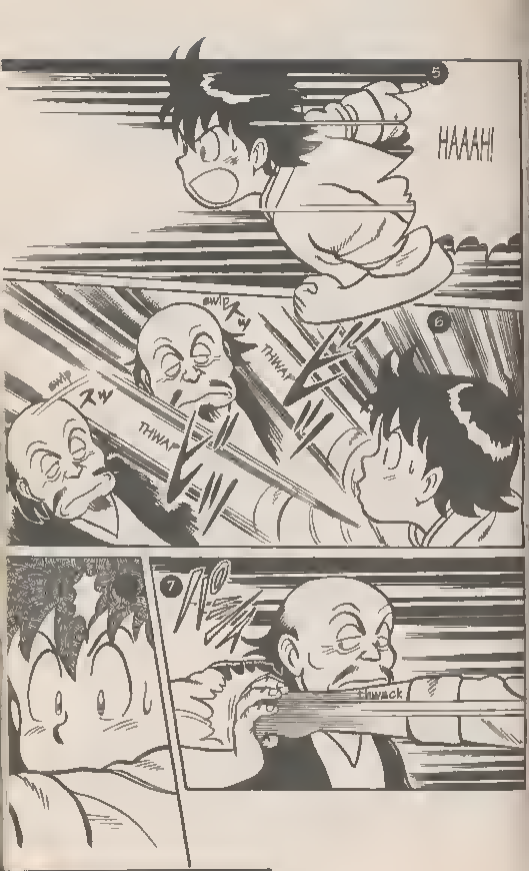
1 You must be Chinmi?
2 Zen Master Tiandao, presume!
3 Yikes! KSAKK!
4 This ice is so thin!
Hahahaha
5 You have to walk like this.
6 Look
7 plat plat
8 Will that work over here?
9 It's the same tricky ness...
10 YAGH! KCHINK!
11 as the last place you stepped
12 When you move you must take care to keep your bodyweight equally distributed...
13 ...and tell your feet, 'Do not disturb the ice...'
14 Wh What's he...?
15 OK... one more time...
plink
16 I guess you're lighter than I am, Master Tiandao!
17 Well, I have had practice.
KRISH!
18 So it would appear!

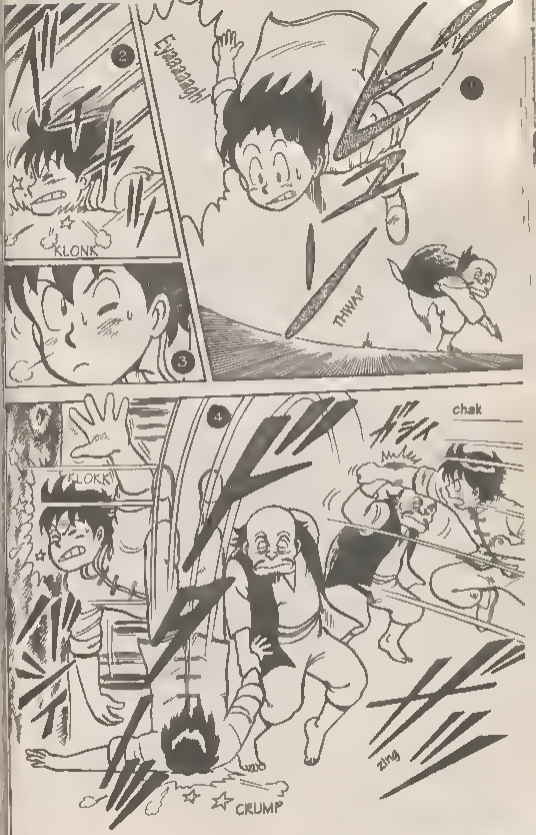
1
2
3
4
... until we've had some food I'm hungry
Hang on! Let's forget about that.
I would be honoured if you would train me.
5
I want you to get me some fish with this rod.
6
Fish?
7
I expected more of Mount Shen.
Is this what they call training?
8
...I'm losing it!
Urgh! This is a fearsome enemy!
10
I've got one!
11
It feels pretty big!
12
Let's go!
13
Going
14
I got tired of waiting around How are you doing?
15
The line broke
16
Ooof!
THWAK
CRUMP

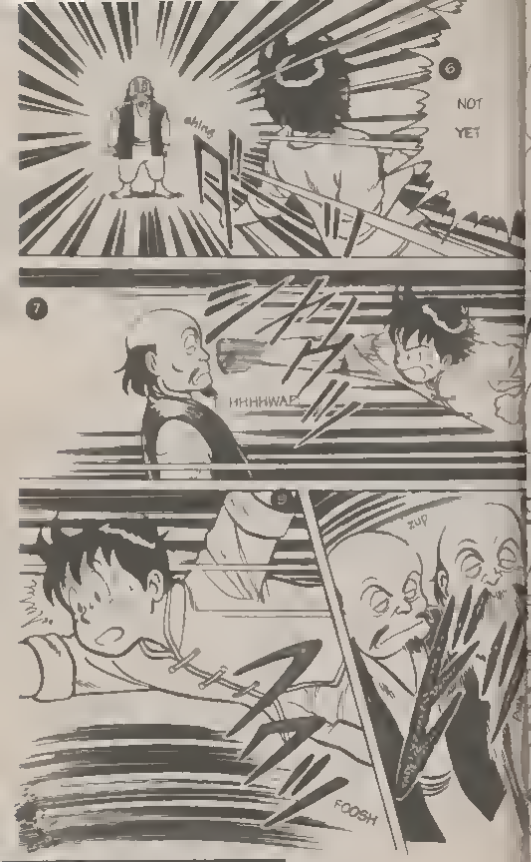
1 So...you think you failed because your line was too thin?
swish
2 Plop
3 On Mount Shen, the fish are begging to be caught...
4 Just watch
5 Yes, Maa-ter
6 Plink
7 Look!
8 There's one already!
9 Keep quiet!
10 one oke en gger!
11 WOW
12 I said SHUT UP!
13 Quickly! Quickly!
14 We can read the fish's movements by watching the line
15 Now
16 splish
17 shukk
18 SPLOOSH
Let's go and cook it!
Amazing!
How about that?
clap clap
Aha!

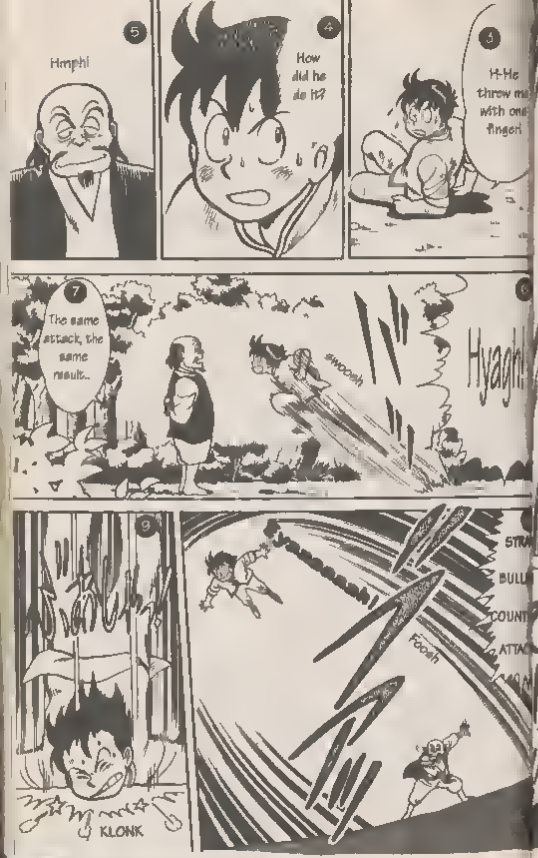
1
Do we start training now?
2
Hyaaaghi
Yahi Yahi Yahi
swip swip
3
Are you prepared for action?
4
Now.
5
slurp
6
Eh?
tink
7
I've been readying myself!
8
All through the journey to Mount Shen..
9
I think I'm very lucky to have the chance to study with him..
10
I don't know what ha means yet, but..
11
Fishing and Kung Fu are equally important...
12
What's wrong?
slurp click
13
Thank you
14
Your rice will get cold
kchik
kchik

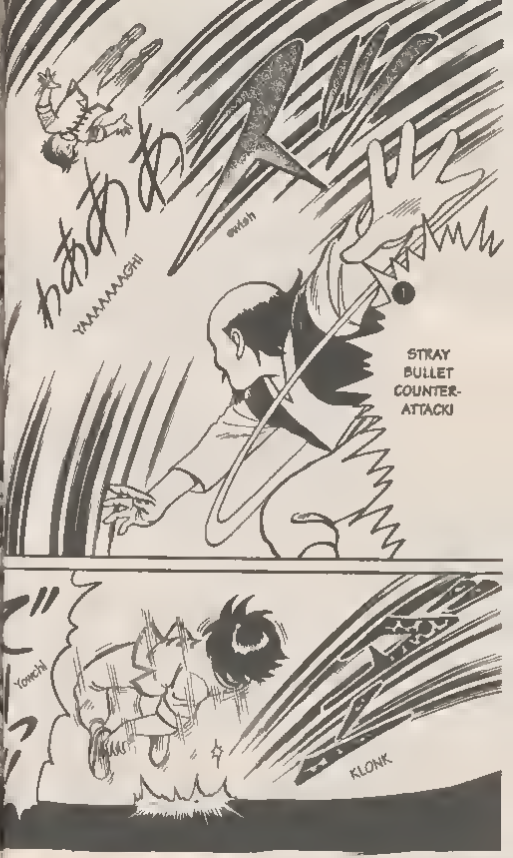

1
I've had enough of teaching Mount Shen is no longer a place of study
2
No! You mean it's over already!?
3
I've come all this way
4
But I might make an exception in your case
5
Would you really? Please consider me!
6
It will be most trouble-some!
7
Let's see how good you are
8
Do you mean that?
9
SWISH
10
BOING
11
zup
HYAAGH
12
slap
Eh!?


1
HAAAH!
2
swip
THWAP
3
thwack

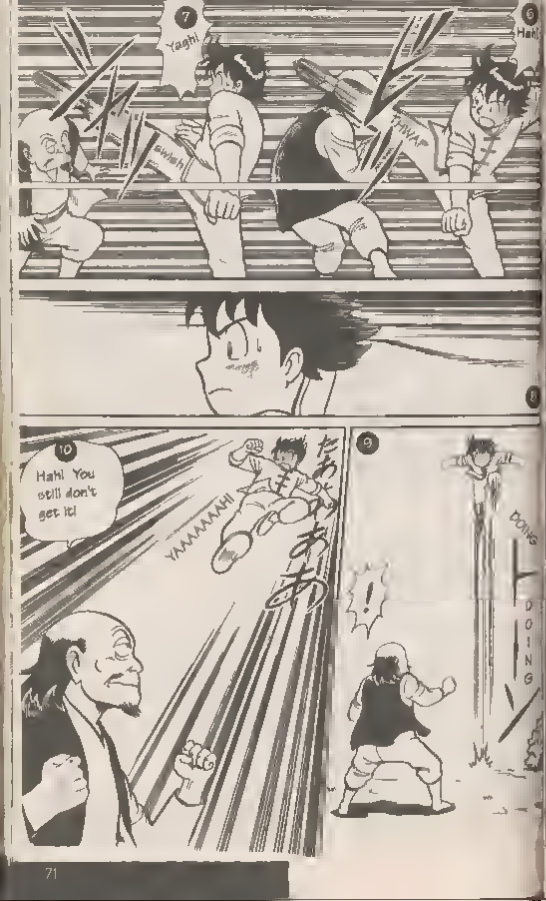

1
Eyaaaaagh!
2
KLONK
3
THWAP
4
KLOK!
chak
zing
CRUMP

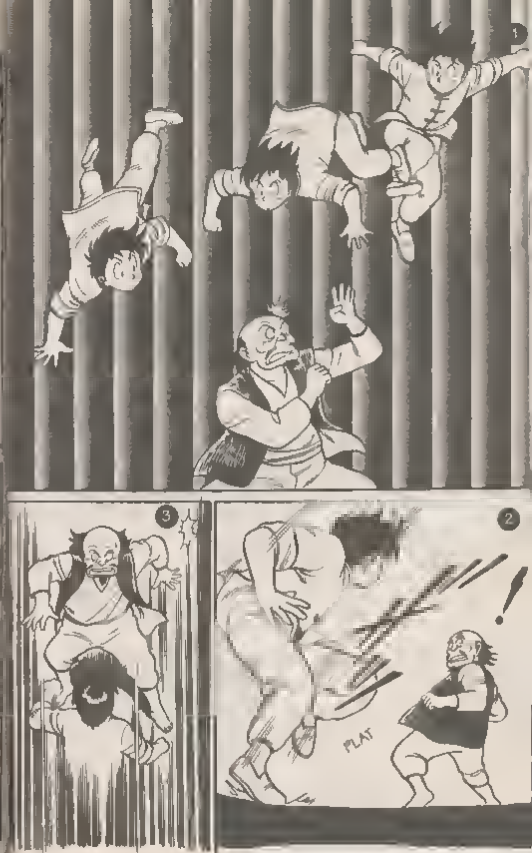

1
SPLUNG
2
THUMP
3
He He's so strong!
And how does he make it look so easy?
4
Well Chimni?
Seems could beat you in one and tied behind my back!
5
zup
FOOSH
6
NOT YET
ahing
7
HHHHWAE


5
Hmph!
4
How did he do it?
3
H-He threw me with one finger!
6
Hyagh!
swoosh
7
The same attack, the same result..
9
KLONK
STRA
BULL
COUNT
ATTA
Fooah

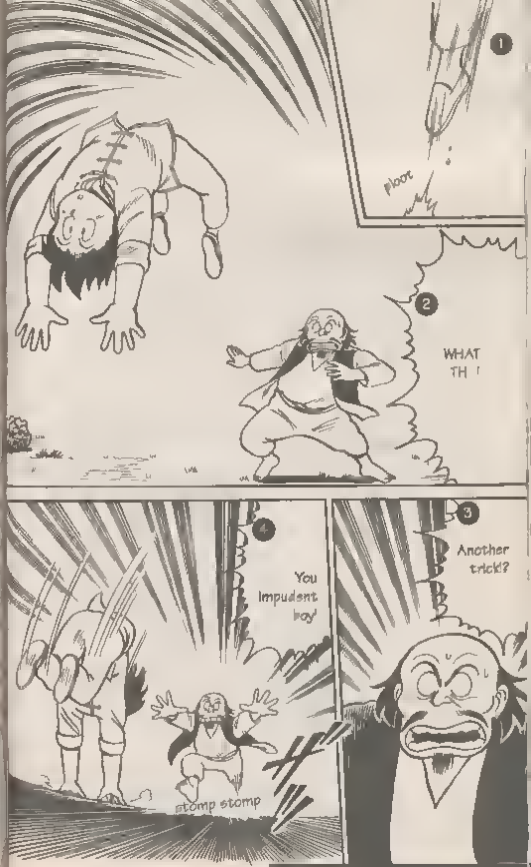

わあああ
YAAAAAAGH!
swish
1
STRAY BULLET COUNTER-ATTACK!
-tonchi
KLONK

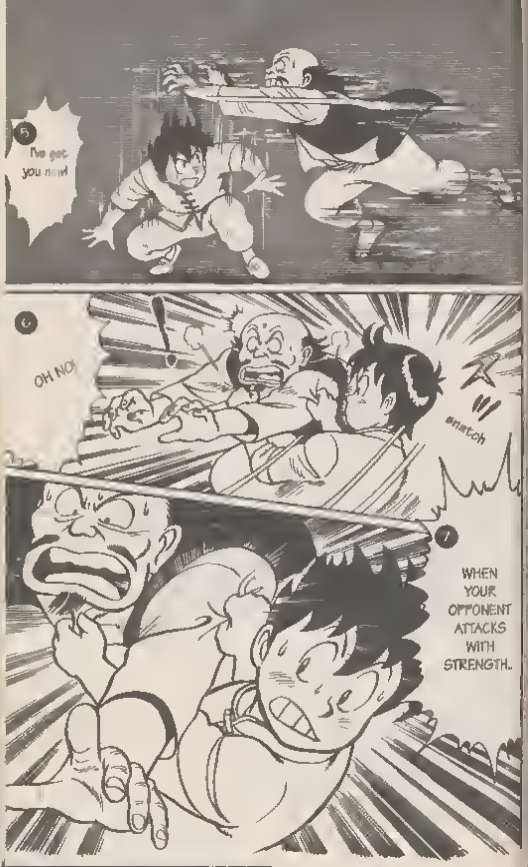
1
Ungh! No matter how much strength I use, he's still too fast for me!
2
Don't you think that Kung Fu involves Strength and Speed, young Chinmi?
3
Perhaps you have already seen your master demonstrate that, hm?
4
Eh!?
5
Think of how in Kung Fu, sometimes speed is worth more than strength.
6
I told you Kung Fu is just like fishing!
7
Kung Fu is like Fishing...
How are they the same?
What is the Zen Master talking about?
8
9
Hah! Got you again!
10
Right! This time I'm ready.
11
You can read the fish's movements by watching the line.
12
Go on that's it.
shiiiuk
13
shiiiuk
15
FLASH!
16


1
Hikahikik
2
The fish was swimming TOWARDS me!
It was easy to catch because it was swimming in MY direction!
3
Zen Master Tiandaoi
4
Let's try again!
5
6
Yaghi
Hah!
Swish!
TIYAA!
7
8
9
DOING
DOING
10
Hah! You still don't get it!
YAAAAAAHI

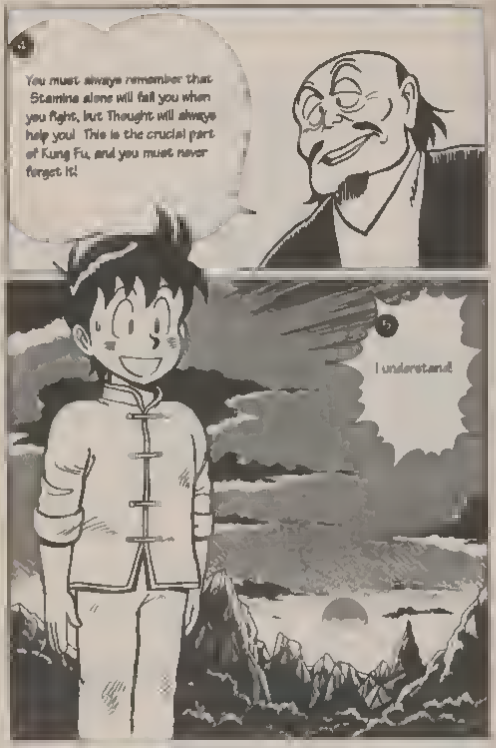

1
2
FLAT
!
3

5
Huh!
A trick!
FLUMP
SLAP
4
Come on
then, Chinmi!
6
YAGH!

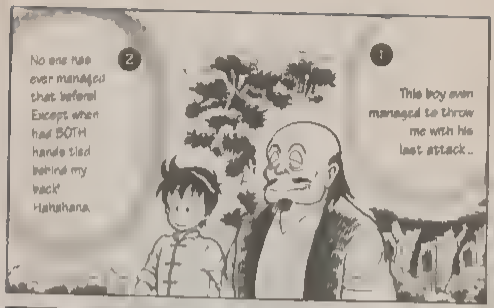

1
ploot
2
WHAT TH !
3
Another trick!?
4
You impudent boy!
stomp stomp

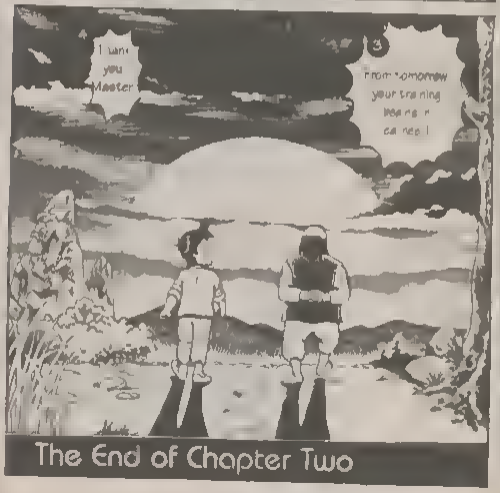

5
I've got you now!
6
OH NO!
snatch
7
WHEN YOUR OPPONENT ATTACKS WITH STRENGTH.

1
USE IT AGAINST HIM!!
SPLING
2
Happy landings!!
SWOOSH
3
snap
snap
splat
4
5
. . . . . !!
6
I think you've finally got it, young Chinmi

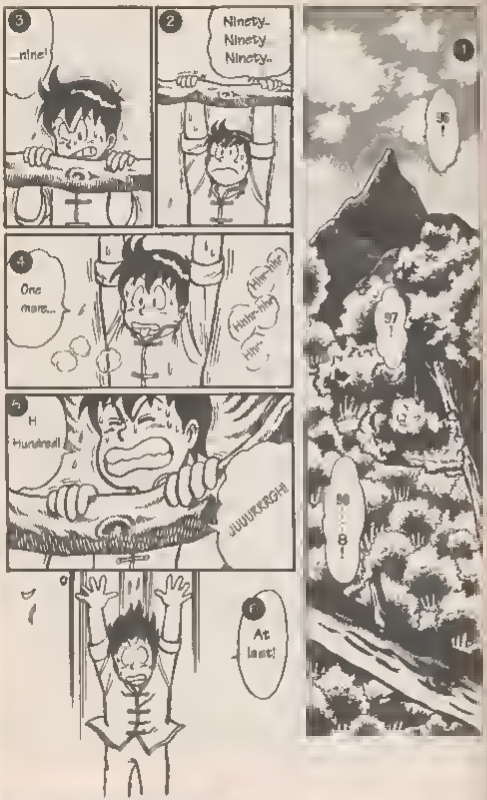

4
You must always remember that Stamina alone will fail you when you fight, but Thought will always help you! This is the crucial part of Kung Fu, and you must never forget it!
5
I understand!

1
I will say this once only
2
When your opponent tries to use his full strength against you, he is vulnerable! Do not meet him head on. Let him meet himself!
3
Even though I am stronger than you, you tricked me into defeating myself. You have done well!


1
This boy even managed to throw me with his last attack...
2
No one has ever managed that before! Except when had BOTH hands tied behind my back! Hahahaha



Chapter Three
Snakes Without Ladders


3
...nine!
2
Ninety-
Ninety
Ninety..
1
96!
97!
98...8!
4
One
more...
Hiiin-hiin
Hiiin-hiin
Hiiin-hiin
5
H
Hundred!
JUUUKKRGH!
6
At
last!

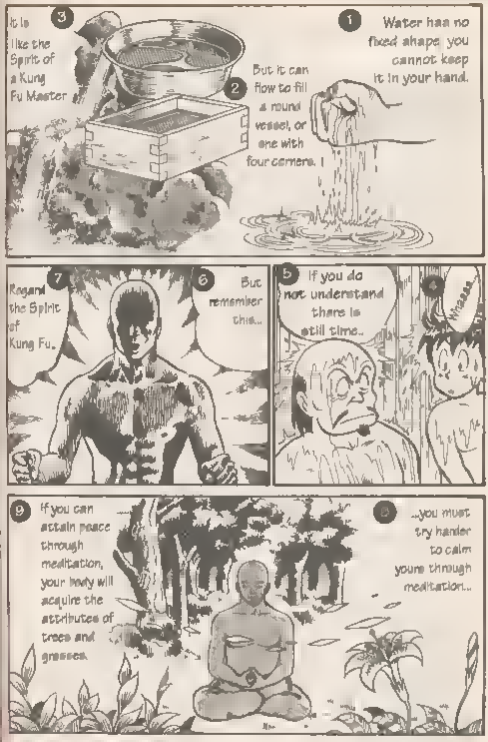
1
Yahaaaa-yi
2
ploosh
3
At last!
Huh?
4
Hhhr-hhr
Hhhr-hhr
Hhhr-hhr
5
I can't take this every day..

6
Chimmll It is time for meditation
Bleagh
7
Not again! At least it's a chance to catch my breath! I'm so tired
Ahhh
8
Chimmll Where are you going?
Eh!
9
That is the way to Yuan Ming Valley!
Ahh oops..
10
Why do I have to keep telling you to stay away from there!?
11
Sorry, I...er... I guess I'm just tired..

1
WHOOOSH
2
SPLASHSPLASH
3
Yiiiiiee! It's cold!

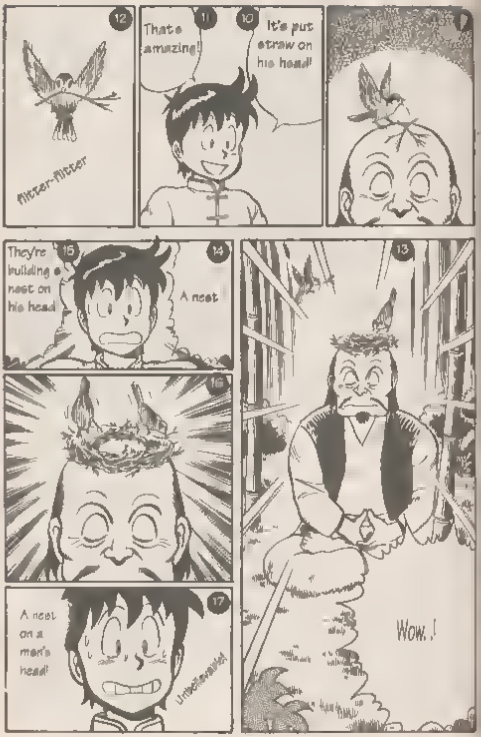
4
Chimmi! Have you been taught about the Water nature of Kung Fu?
5
Err...
The Old Master said...
6
I must have a Mind that shines like the sun on a lake, Movement that flows like a river, and Spirit that crashes like breakers.
He said it was important.
7
Indeed, very much so.
8
The Water nature is very mysterious...
9
10
Think of the power of even a gentle river. Carving at the stones of its banks.
11
Water is the weakest element, and yet if drops fall on a stone year after year they will carve a hole!

11
Allow your heart to be calm and you shall gain a better nature
10
You must be flexible, or your progress will be stunted
14
Shut up and sit down!
13
What is he doing?
12
Now let us see..
16
15
16
17
Meditation AGAIN!


3
It is like the Spirit of a Kung Fu Master
2
But it can flow to fill a round vessel, or one with four corners. I
1
Water has no fixed shape, you cannot keep it in your hand.
7
Regard the Spirit of Kung Fu..
6
But remember this..
5
If you do not understand there is still time..
9
If you can attain peace through meditation, your body will acquire the attributes of trees and grasses.
8
..you must try harder to calm youre through meditation...

All it achieves is making my legs ache!
Why is he always insisting on this..?
A rabbit!
I must keep still
I'd watch out if I were you
plong
plong
Does it realise it's right next to the Zen Master!?
Huh! It saw me! I scared it off!
But why didn't it see him!
Huh? A chipmunk!

1
Birds, too!
2
And the Zen Master hasn't moved!
3
So what's going on? Hmmm..
4
We've got it. He's been living on this mountain so long all creatures think of him as a friend
5
flap flap
6
7
Pitweet
Pitweet


10
It's put straw on his head!
11
That's amazing!
12
flitter-flitter
13
Wow.!
14
A nest
15
They're building a nest on his head
16
17
A nest on a man's head!
Unbelievable!

1
cheep cheep
flutter flutter
2
cheep
cheep
3
Sorry about that, my friend.
4
Zen Master! Didn't that hurt!
5
The birds wouldn't have been able to tell the difference between my head and a rock!
6
A rock. They thought the Zen Master was a rock
7
Well, Chinmi if you could truly slow your heart
you would lose the aura of humanity that scares them off
9
Look around you for a while.
Uh, OK
10
How can a man become stone...?
11
If I can slow my heart, I will lose the aura of humanity...
12
Naturality...
13
Fluidity
14
But why would I want to.
15
Flutter

1
Not a single animal anywhere. Guess I don't look stoned enough
2
Rustle
3
SPLAT
4
Eek!
Gokuwa!
5
Eek eek!
What are you doing here?
6
Why did you follow me? Mount Shen is no playground!
7
Whoosh
Foosh
Eek!
I'd be hungry!
8
Have you got any more?
9
slurp
Delicious
10
OK, I've got the ideal Lead on, Gokuwa
Eek!
11
Just how far is it?
12
I think we must be inside Yuan Ming Valley
13
I'm not supposed to be here
Tek tek
14
Is this the tree?
15
Yaay! It's dripping with fruit!
16
Rustle
17
Snap!
18
Waaaagh!
crash
crack

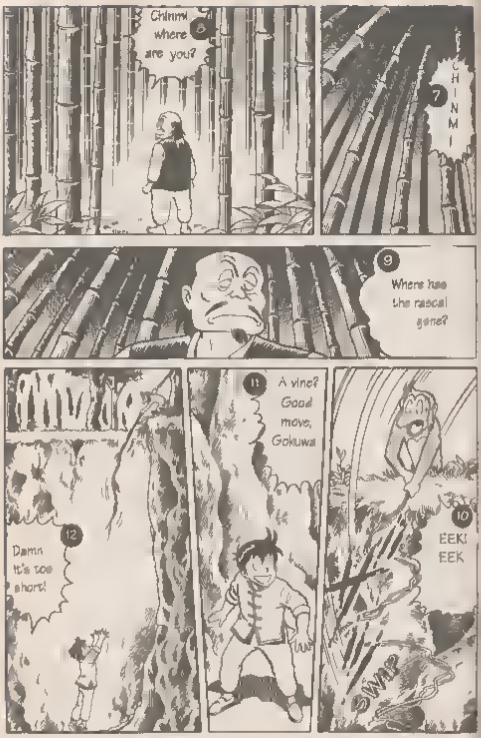
1
Gonk Klonk Donk
2
わあああ!
3
WHICH
4
Ouch!
Full! This is a swamp! If I'm not careful I'll sink.
5
Eek? Eek!
6
It's OK Gokuwa!
7
Urk
8
Oh no... I've twisted my ankle.
9
Plok Plink
10
11
The earth is too soft.
12
There's no way I can climb out...
13
...and if I walk through the swamp, there's no telling where I'll come out.
14
I wish I'd listened to the Zen Master...

1
2
A viper!
3
It's got me cornered!
4
5
It's coming this way...
6
7
That's probably the only one in the swamp.
Phew
8
...but it was a very poisonous one to run into!

9
YAGH
10

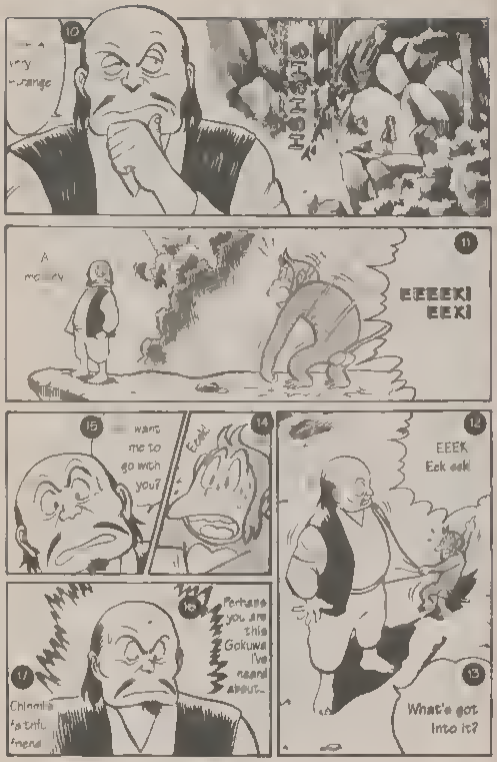
Get away
Nooo
CHOMP
CHOMP
Uip
My hair
Aaaa
Ka-boom

Fhm-s
Shhh


1 Chimm where are you?
2 CHIMM
3 Where has the rascal gone?
10 EEK! EEK
11 A vine? Good move, Gokuwa
12 Damn it's too short!
SWIP

1 Hmm
2 Hsssss
3 Hhhn-hhn Hhhn hhn
4 Hollop!
5 Now what.
6 What can I do?

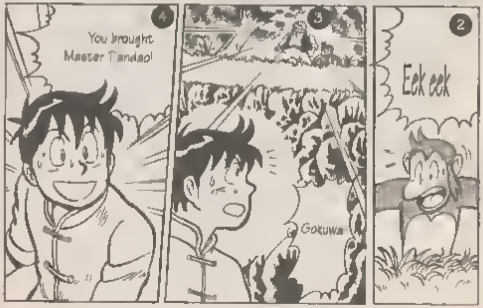
1
Quick! Get me a branch!
2
3
4
5
SWING
6
Right then
7
I've got my viper wiper!
8
Is this going to work?
THROB
THROB
9
Gokuwa Go and get Tiandao Quickly!


10
A very strange
CRUNCH
11
A monkey
EEEEEK! EEK!
12
EEEK Eek eek
13
What's got into it?
14
Eek
15
I want me to go with you?
16
Perhaps you are this Gokuwa I've heard about...
17
Chiaotzu's faithful friend

1
2
Come on, then!
3
You... er... SNAKES!
4
SNAP!
5
Take that!
THWAP
6
A dead snail
Oof...
CRAZY

7
Has Chinm gone to Yuan Ming Valley?
8
9
Is he here?
EEE eeeek!!
10
!

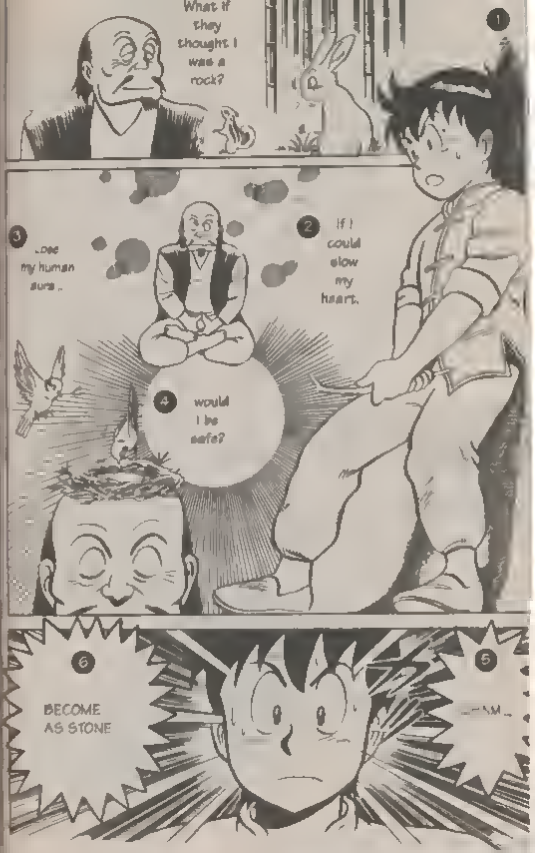
1
FOOSH

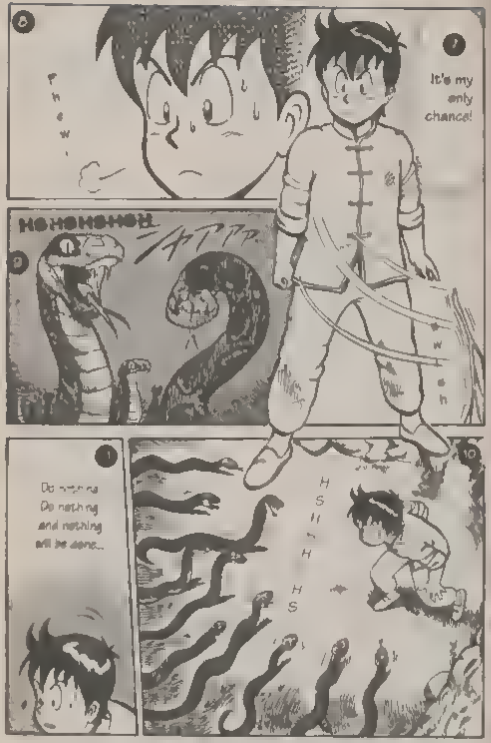

4
You brought Master Tiandao!
3
Gokuwa
2
Eek eek

6
Chimml...
5
Can you get a rope to pull me up?!
7
Please hurry, Master Tiandao!
8
Chimml I told you to stay away from here! You fell into the snake pit by yourself! Now get out by yourself!
9
ZEN MASTER!!

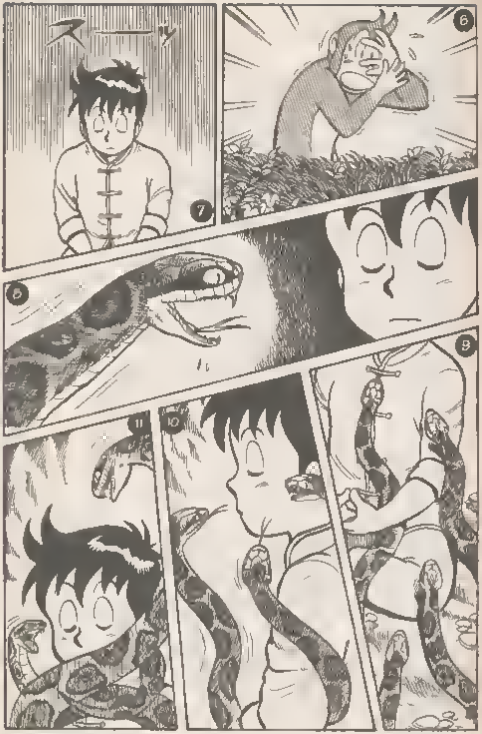
9
If just one gets through, I'm dead
8
Can't use Kung Fu, there's far too many of them
hhh!
Hhhh
hhh!
11
SWAT
SNAT
10
HSHSHSHS
14
What do I do?
13
...but there's nowhere to run!
12
I can't cope with them all..
Hhh-hhh
16
Rocks.
15
Nothing but rocks all around, and the snakes are hungry! I don't want to be

There's nothing but rocks in that valley. The snakes haven't had a snack like you in a long while!
5
What do you think this is? A holiday camp?
2
Won't you come and help me?
1
Wait! Master Tiandaoi I've twisted my ankle! I can't move!
3
If you survive, meet me for meditation under the waterfall this afternoon.
4
What kind of training is this?
7
YOU REPTILE!
6


What if they thought I was a rock?
1
If I could slow my heart..
2
..lose my human aura..
3
would I be safe?
4
BECOME AS STONE
6
5

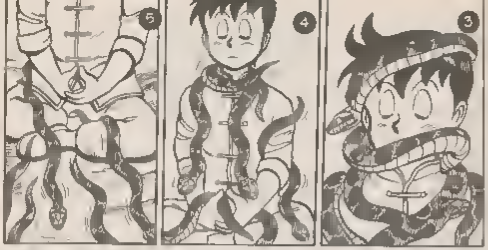

8
It's my only chance!
7
HSHSHSHSH!!
9
Do nothing. Do nothing and nothing will be done...
1
HSHSHS
10

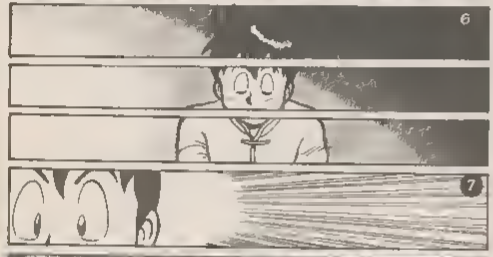
1
I am not here...
2
I am not a living thing
3
My heart is slowing...
4
I am a rock before you..
5

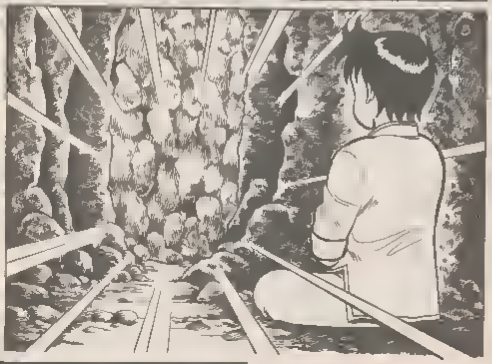

6
7
8
9
10
11

1

2


5
4
3


6
7


8

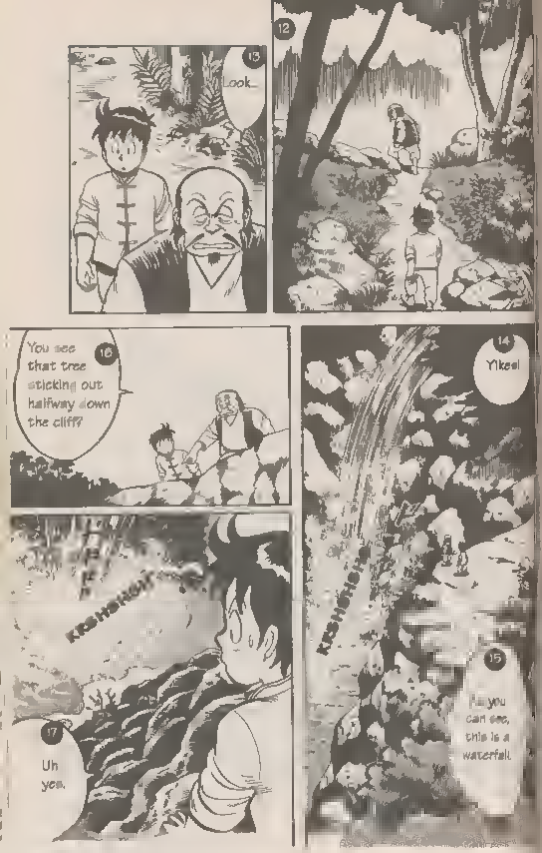
SHSHSHSHS
SHSHSHSHS
SHSHSHSHS

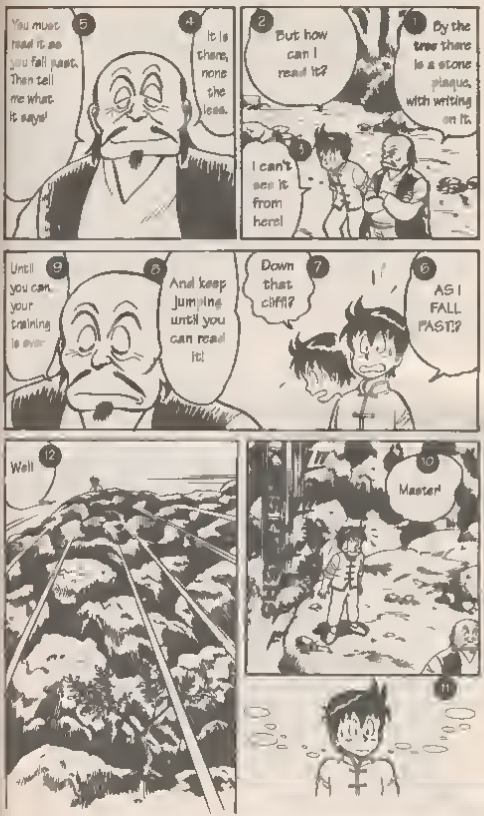
Chapter Four
Raindrops Keep Falling

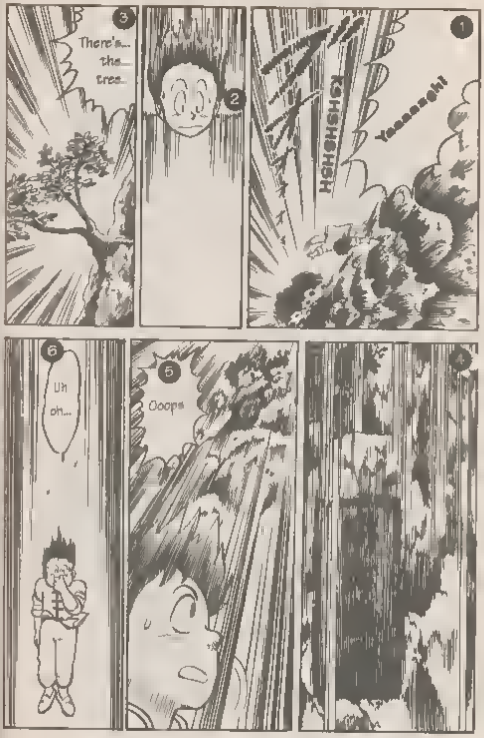
1
Hhhh-hhh Hhhh-hhh
2
Come on! You're slowing down!
3
Keep going!
Phew
Phew
4
I can't...
5
And now, combat!
Hhhh-hhh
Hhhh-hhh
Wheeze
6
Get up!
7
Hang on
Hhhh-hhh
Can't I have a rest!
Hhhh-hhh
8
Hhhh-hhh
9
Hmph
10
Hhhh-hhh
Wheeze
11
Right! Rest over!
12
Let us begin!

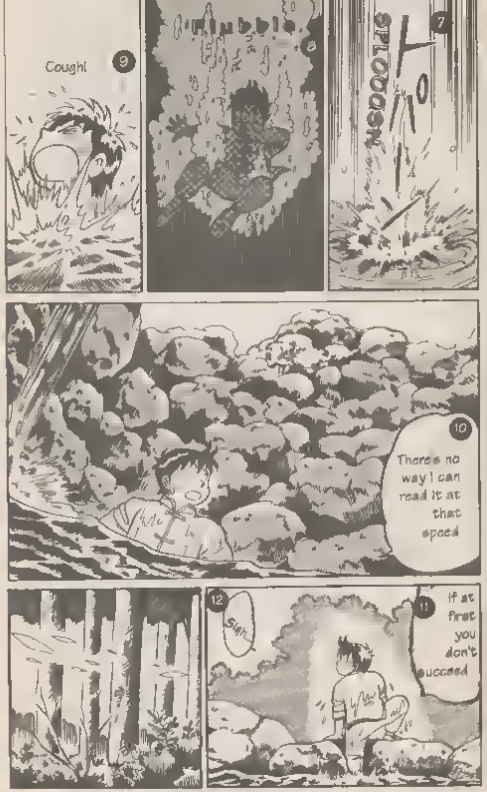
1
Can't I have a little...
2
Get on with it, Chimmé
3
I'm for it, today..
4
aaaagh!
THUWAP
5
AGH!
6
You can do better than that...
7
OK!"
8
There! There! There!
9
What are you doing!?
10
Eyaagh!
11
I've got you now

waaaagh!
SWOOSH
1
2
...do you ALWAYS DO THAT?
SWISH
4
Why...
3
Ouch! Ouch! Ouch!
6
5
Too slow
7
Darn!
SWAT
pink
8
It seems I will always trick you with that one...
9
You have a lot to learn, Chimi
10
SWISH
11
Take that!
12


1
Nothing seems to work...
2
Uh-oh...
3
4
That's because your movements are easy to predict
5
CLONK
6
But that's why I came here
7
To increase things like speed
8
And make my movements unreadable
9
But you make your actions predictable
10
However, when you can predict mine, you will have mastered the art.
11
Follow me
12
13
Look...
14
Yikes!
15
As you can see, this is a waterfall.
16
You see that tree sticking out halfway down the cliff?
17
KESHSHSH
Uh yes.


1 By the tree there is a stone plaque, with writing on it.
2 But how can I read it?
3 I can't see it from here!
4 It is there, none the less.
5 You must read it as you fall past. Then tell me what it says!
6 AS I FALL FAST!?
7 Down that cliff!?
8 And keep jumping until you can read it!
9 Until you can, your training is over.
10 Master!
11
12 Well
13 I can't even see the thing...
14 All I know is, it's halfway down.
15 But if I can't read it, I might as well go home...
16 Well, here goes...
17 WHOOOOSH!
WHOOOOSH!

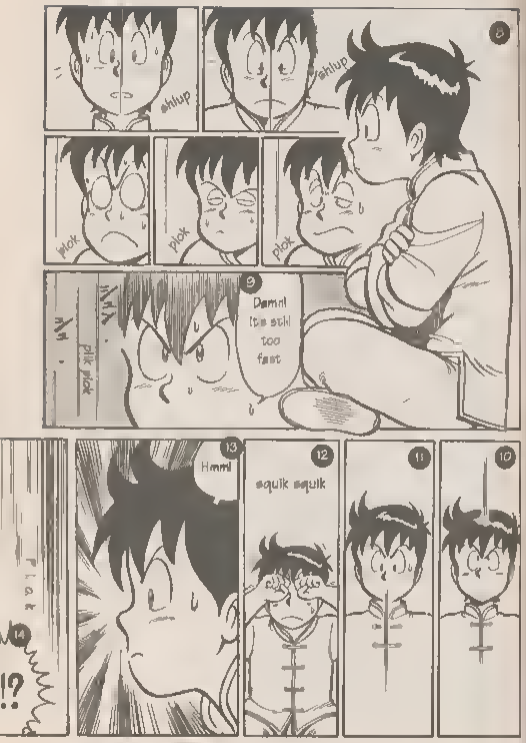

1
Yaaaaaah!
HSHSHSH
2
3
There's... the... tree...
4
5
Oops
6
Uh oh...

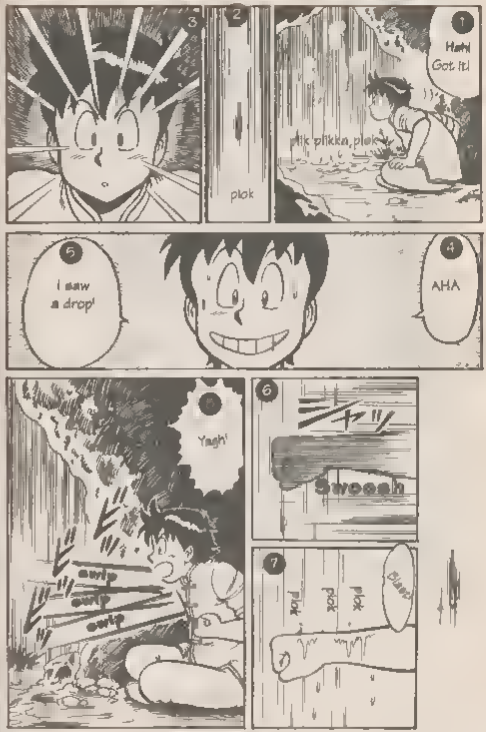

7
FLOOOSH
8
Bubble
9
Cough!
10
There's no way I can read it at that speed
11
If at first you don't succeed
12
Sigh

1
No matter how many times I go past, I'm never going to read it.
2
slap
3
Hhhr-hhr Hhhr-hhr Hhhr-hhr
Hoah
4
Human eyes can't move at that speed
5
But the Master says if I don't get thin, I'll never get him
6
plok
plok
plok
7

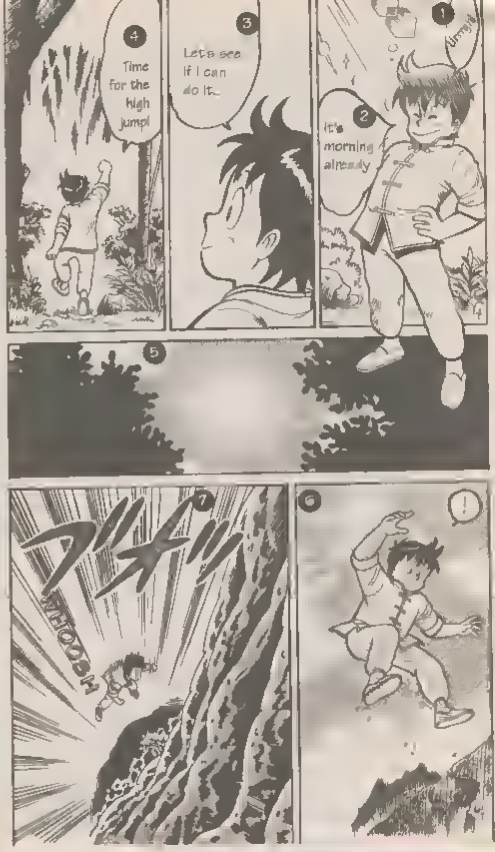
8
Great. Maybe I can train my eyes to move faster
9
Hmm
10
Hah!
11
Hah!
12
Come on Faster
13

1
plikka
pick
plik
2
Hm m
3
This rain
4
It looks like string from the side.
5
One drop of water looks like a line because my eyes can't keep up with it
plip plip plip
6
SHSHSHS
SHSHSHS
7
Right!


8
shtup
shtup
pick
pick
pick
9
Damn! It's still too fast
plik pick
10
11
12
squik squik
13
Hmm!
14
!?


1
Hah!
Got it!
plik plikka, plik
2
plok
3
4
AHA
5
I saw a drop!
6
Swoosh
7
plik
plik
plik
Bam!
8
Yaah!
swip
swip
swip

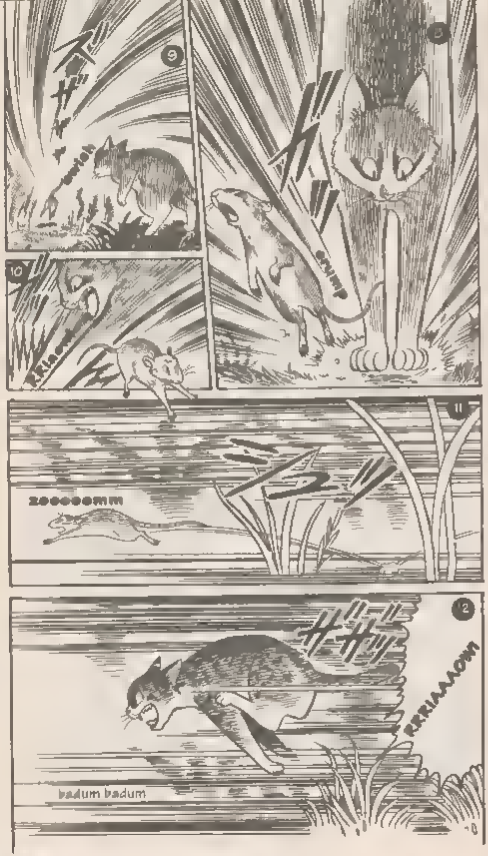
9
Fighting rain is damn difficult.
10
Yaah!
11
Hah!
Swoosh
12
Hah!
Hah.
Hah.
Hah.
Hah!
13
clasp
clasp
14
S H
15
Hahal Tenth time lucky!
16
PLINK
17
If I can see the rain, I can see the sign!

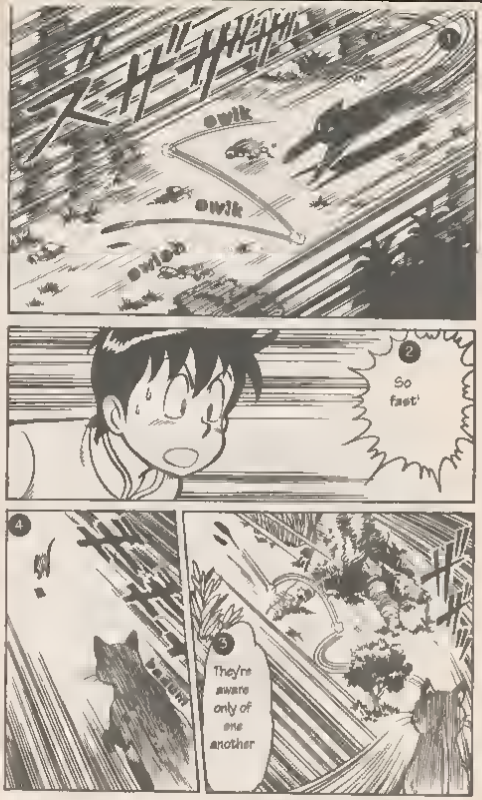

1
Jump!
2
It's morning already
3
Let's see if I can do it..
4
Time for the high jump!
5
6
!
7
WHOOSH
8
Oh de... ar
9
Blast! Just a bit slower!
10
11
The worst bit is climbing the hill every time
12
Hah! But I saw the last character! It said 'Water'
I can do it! Just one more jump!

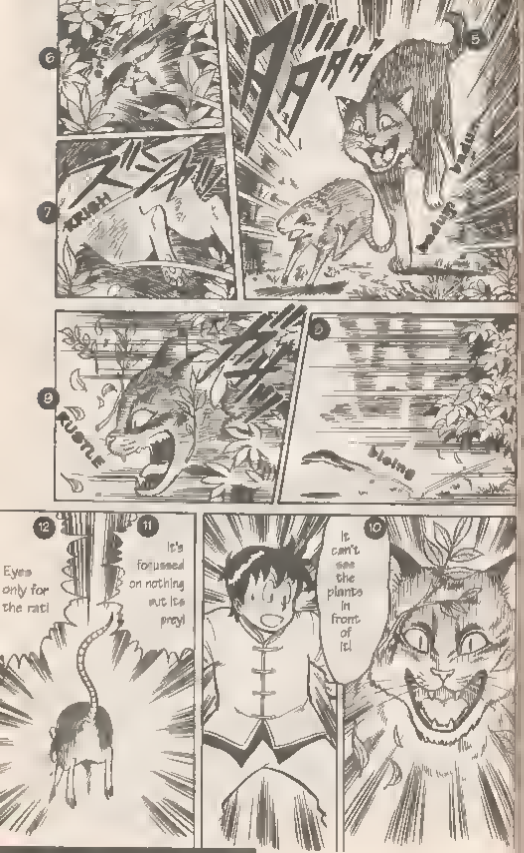
1
Whoops...
2
Wrong way round!
3
I'm getting angry That is four jumps and all I've read is one word
4
I need to read faster than rain falls I don't think I can do it...
5
I thought I heard some thing...
6
7
A wildcat!
elk eok
8
It's going for that rat!

9
10
11
12
13
Barrg
14
15
It's moving so slowly that the cricket hasn't noticed it.
16
But it hasn't let the rat out of its sight.
17
The concentration

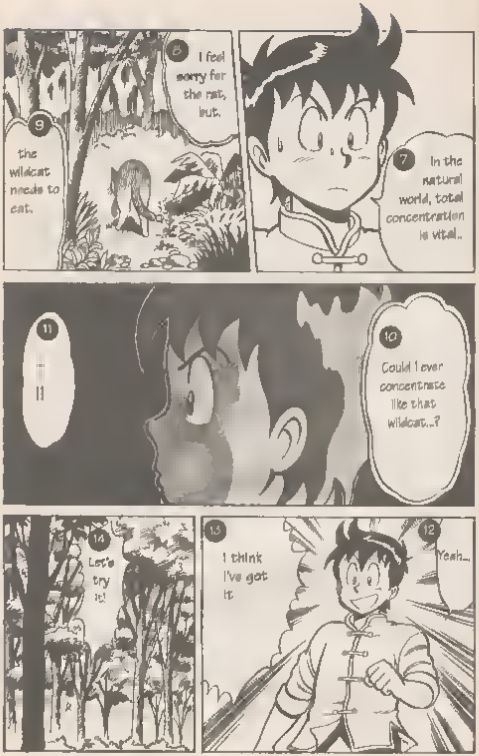
1
2
3
4
SHI
5
!
6
RAARGHI
7

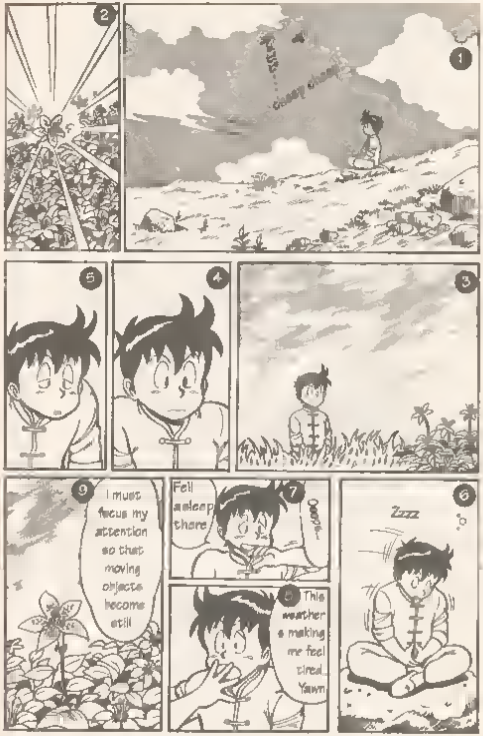

8
9
SNIFF
10
KRIaow
11
2
badum badum
RRRIAAOW

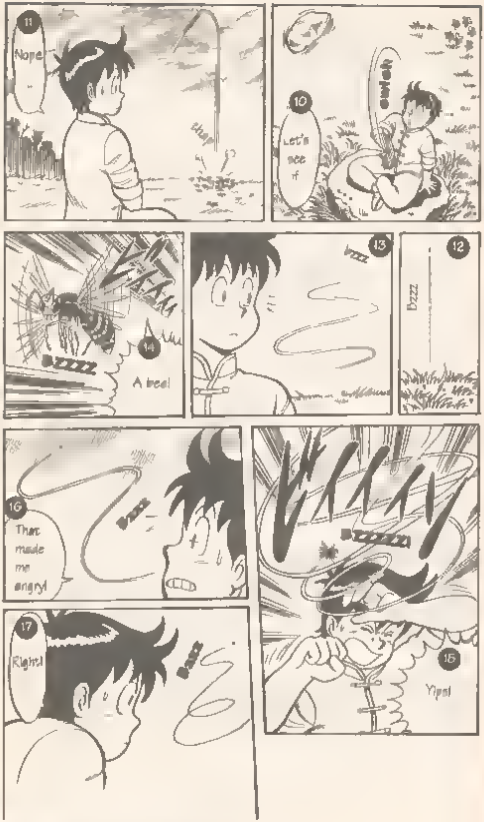

1
owik
owik
owlah
2
So fast!
3
They're aware only of one another
4
BOUNG

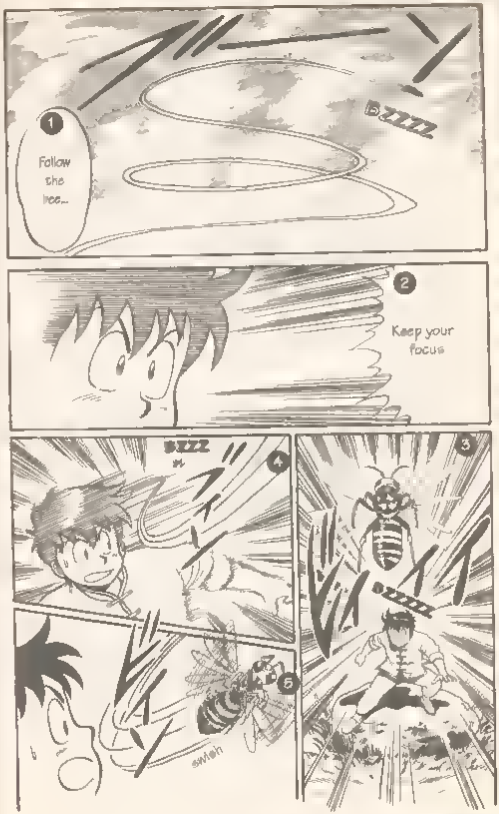

5
6
7
KRISH
8
RUSTLE
9
bleing
10
It can't see the plants in front of it!
11
It's fixated on nothing but its prey!
12
Eyes only for the rat!

1
peek
plutch!
2
Got it...!
3
lick lick
4
5
It kept its eyes on its prey! Even at that speed..
6
It kept focussed on a single point!

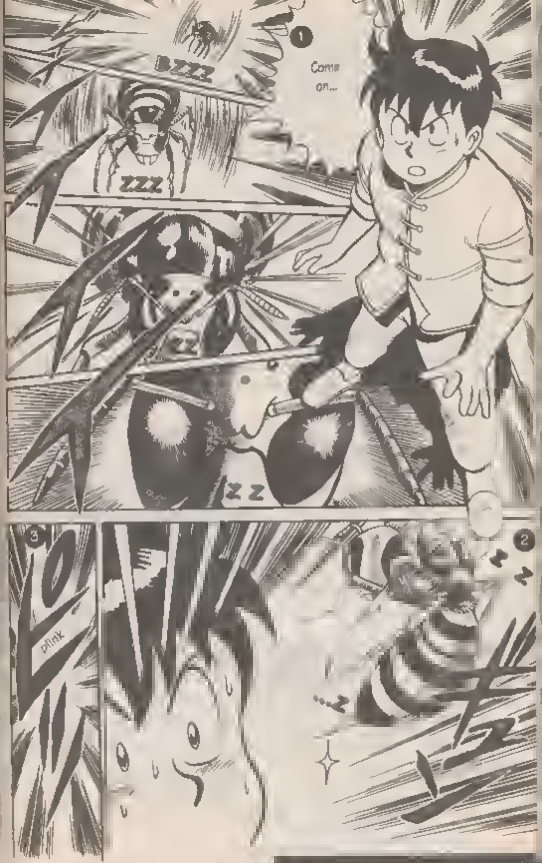

7
In the natural world, total concentration is vital..
8
I feel sorry for the rat, Inut.
9
the wildcat needs to eat.
10
Could I ever concentrate like that wildcat...?
11
12
Yeah...
13
I think I've got it
14
Let's try it!


1
Sleepy Village
2
3
4
5
6
Zzzz
7
Fell asleep there
Oooh...
8
This weather is making me feel tired... Yawn
9
I must focus my attention so that moving objects become still

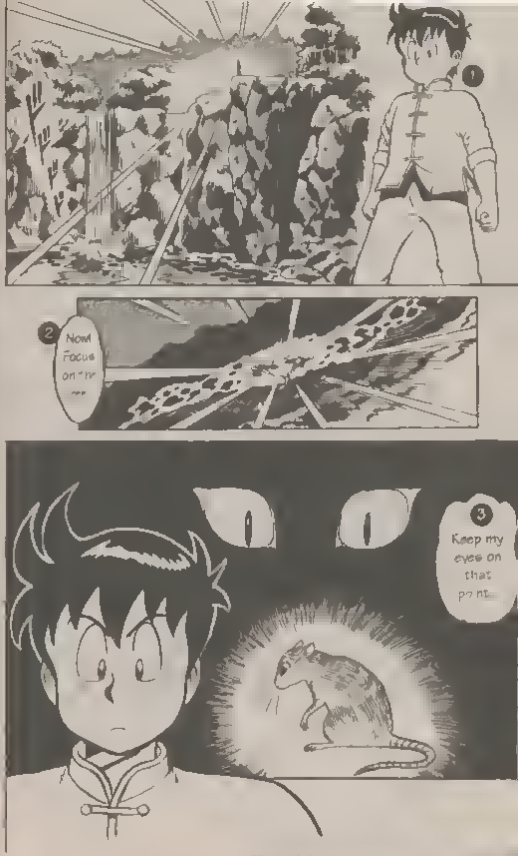

10
Let's see if
11
Nope
12
Bzzz
13
Bzzz
14
A bee!
15
Yips!
16
That made me angry!
17
Right!

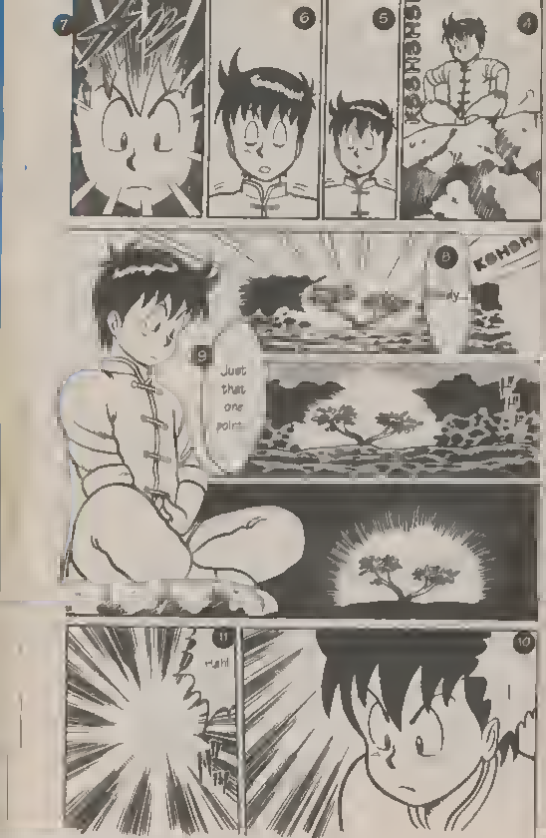

1
Follow the bee...
2
Keep your focus
3
4
5
6
swish

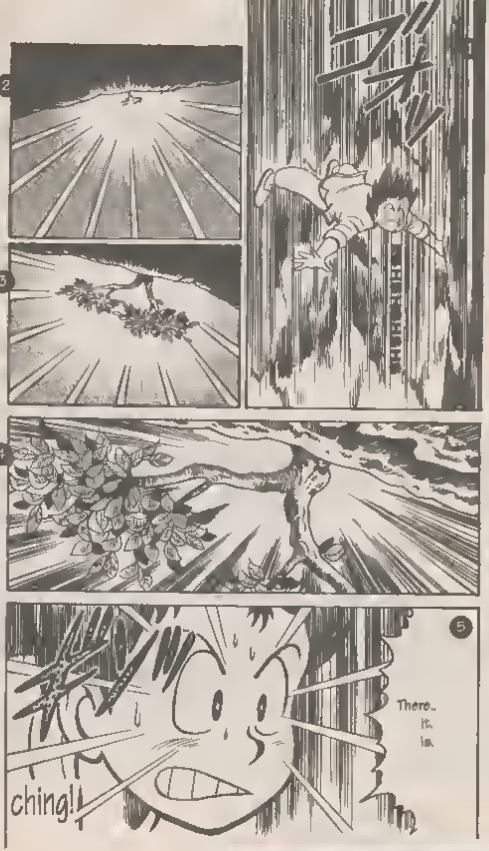
7
6
8
I must focus on the bee
9
10
11
12
Got it!

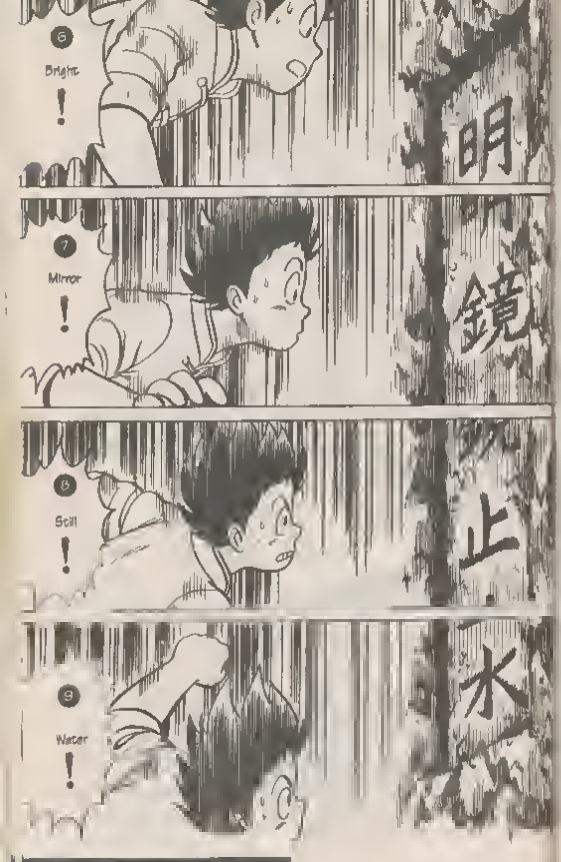

1
Come on...
BZZZ
ZZZ
ZZ
2
3
plink

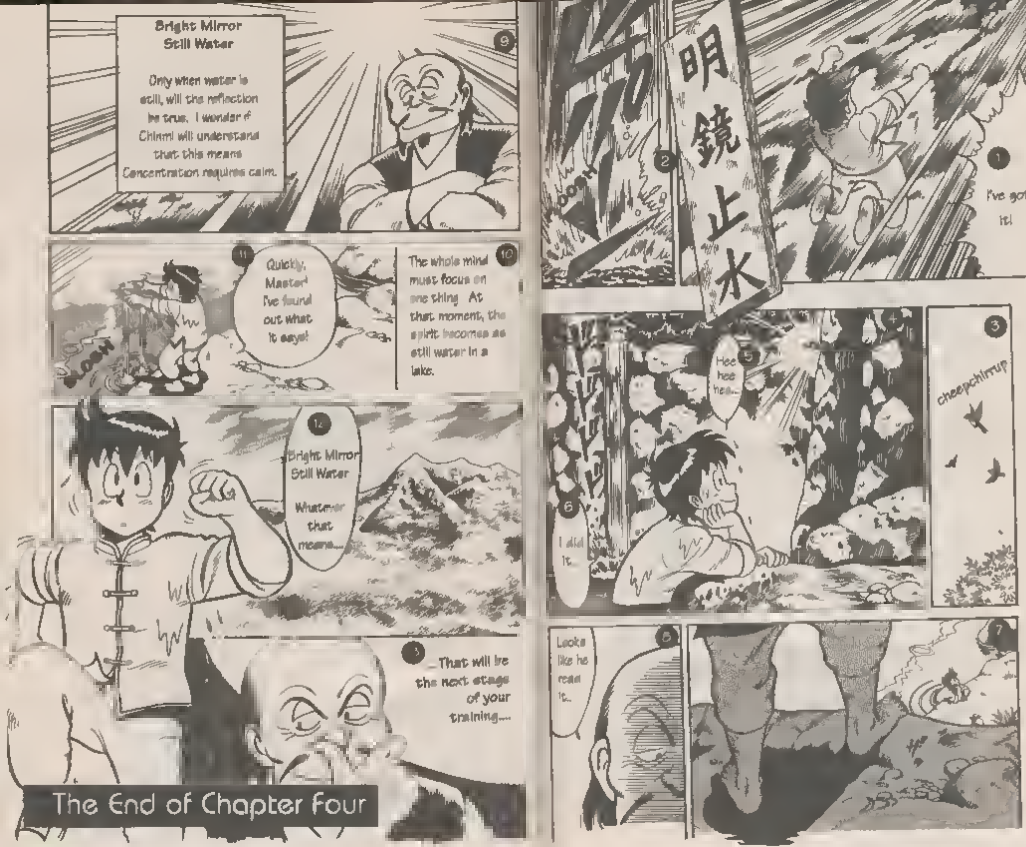
5
4
6
9
I did it...
8
7
BZZZ


1
2
Now! Focus on the rat
3
Keep my eyes on that point


4
5
6
7
8
KOHOH
9
Just that one point
10
11
HAH!

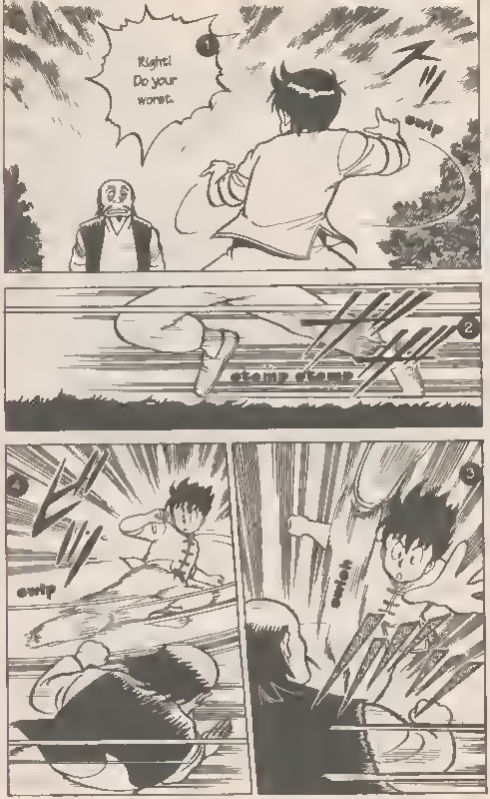

1
2
3
4
5
There..
it.
is.
ching!!

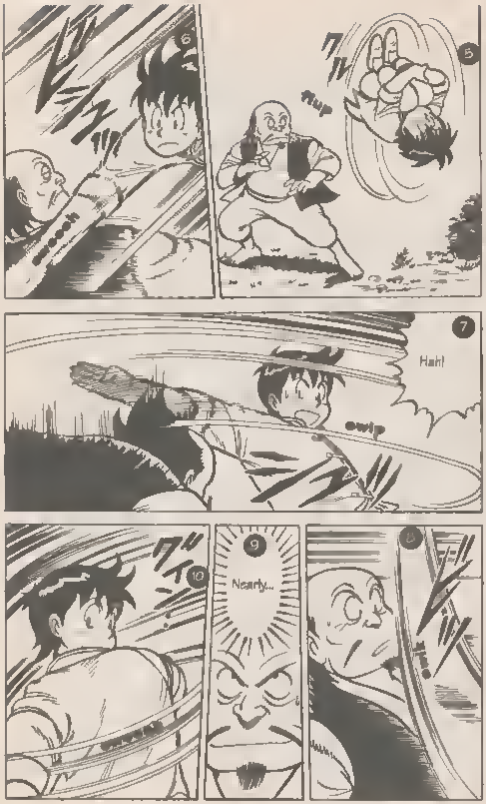

6
Bright
!
明
7
Mirror
!
鏡
8
Still
!
止
9
Water
!
水


Bright Mirror
Still Water
Only when water is still, will the reflection be true. I wonder if Chimi will understand that this means Concentration requires calm.
9
明鏡止水
BOOM
2
I've got it!
1
Hee hee hee...
5
cheepchirrup
3
I did it...
6
Looks like he read it...
8
7
Quickly, Master! I've found out what it says!
11
The whole mind must focus on one thing. At that moment, the spirit becomes as still water in a lake.
10
Bright Mirror Still Water
Whatever that means...
12
...That will be the next stage of your training....
13
The End of Chapter Four

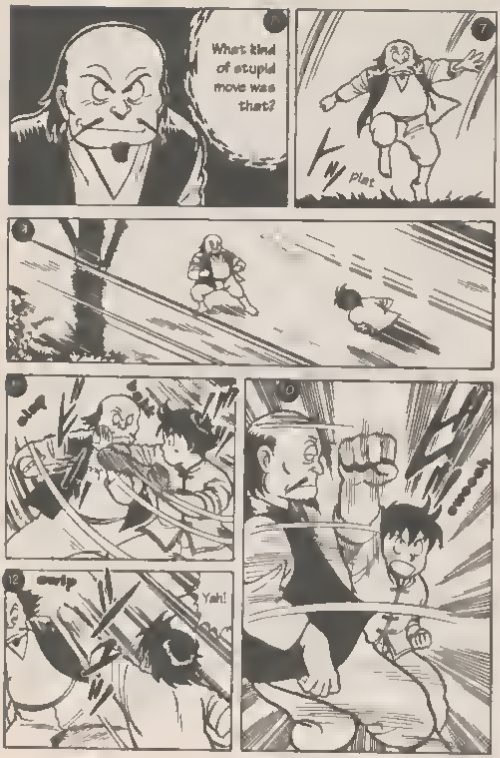
Chapter Five
Last Day on the Mountain

1
Chimmi, you are making good progress.
2
I'm very impressed.
3
Thank you, Master
4
Let's go!
5
6
plat

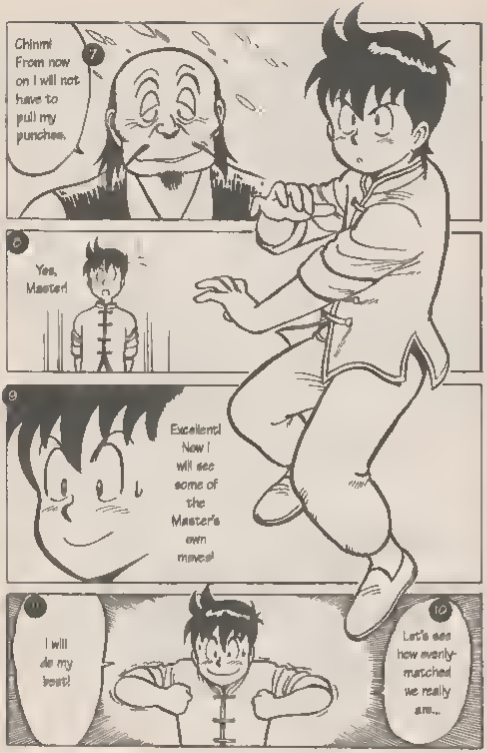

1
Right! Do your worst.
swip
2
stomp stomp
3
swish
4
swip


5
slup
6
7
Hah!
swip
8
9
Nearly...
10

1
HAH!
2
slap
He's become so fast!
3
Phew...
4
swip
Yaghi
swip
5
He gets faster every day!
6
THAP
Hah!
7
Yikes
swish
8
9
Damn! Whatever I try, you're still too quick.
10
You truly are a Master!
11
Had enough yet, Chimmi?

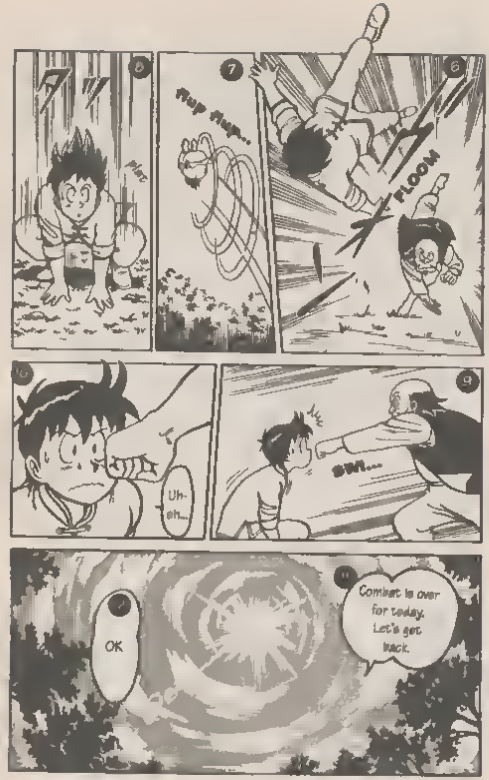

Hah!
No way!!
plink
FOOSH
oulp
What kind of stupid move was that?
plat
oulp
Yah!

1
Over here...
2
SWOOSH
3
SWIP
4
THAP
THAP
Ouch...
5
Heh heh heh Good
I see you have put your childish tricks behind you...


6
Yes, Master!
7
Ohmm! From now on I will not have to pull my punches.
8
Excellent! Now I will see some of the Master's own moves!
9
10
Let's see how evenly-matched we really are...
11
I will do my best!

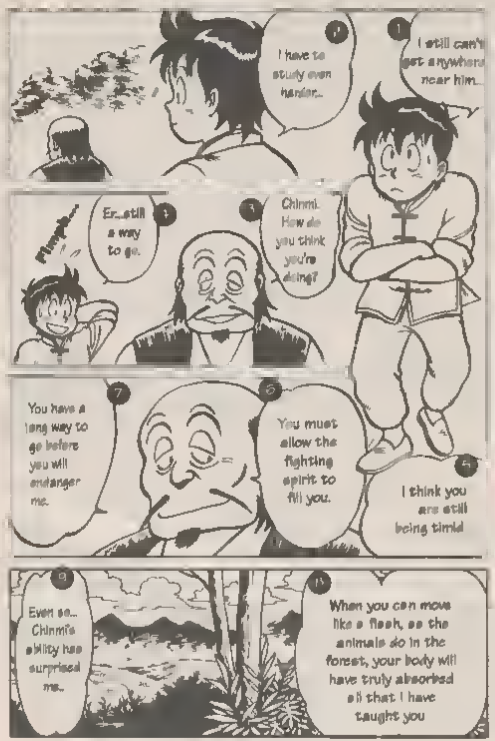
1
Hah!
SWIP
2
THWACK
3
KLONK
Ow!
4
SWIP
5
SMAKK
6
Waah!
FOOSH

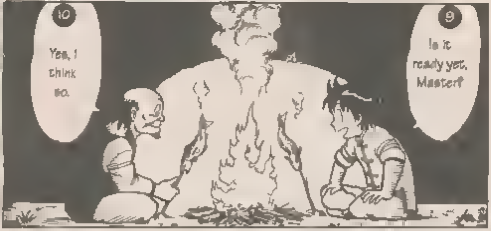
7
CRUNCH
8
Gulp
9
No time to rest!
10
SWIP
11
SMACK
12
Plonk!!


6
plan
7
flap flap...
8
FLOOM
10
Uh-oh...
9
sun...
11
Combat is over for today. Let's get back.
12
OK

2
4
boing
4
plan
3
5
hmm

Sniff
I'm on it!
Get the fire going, Chinmi...
Time for some food.
Ah!
Yeah yeah! Hang on!
Hurry up, Chinmi...
Nothing but smoke!
caught!


I still can't get anywhere near him...
I have to study even harder...
Chinmi. How do you think you're doing?
Er...still a way to go.
I think you are still being timid
You must allow the fighting spirit to fill you.
You have a long way to go before you will endanger me.
When you can move like a flash, as the animals do in the forest, your body will have truly absorbed all that I have taught you
Even so... Chinmi's ability has surprised me.


1
Chinmi is already an accomplished Kung Fu fighter...
2
I wonder how long his brilliance will last – whether he will be able to maintain this level of progress.
3
He's a fascinating phenomenon
4
Just how much stronger can he become?
5
There's nothing left for me to teach him here
6
crackle
7
Got it!
8

9
Is it ready yet, Master?
10
Yes, I think so.
11
This is delicious..
12
gnaw
13
chomp
14
15
Chinmi...
16
Whut?
slurp
17
Tomorrow will be your last day on Mount Shen..

End of Book 2